FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BLOC OFFICERS DISCUSS PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

PM221854 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Theoretical Conference"]

[Text] A theoretical conference of generals, admirals, and officers of the allied armies was held at the headquarters of the Warsaw Pact states' Joint Armed Forces 20 December on the subject "Imperialism's Psychological War Against Socialism: The Activity of the Fraternal Communist and Workers Parties in Educating Working People and Servicemen in the Spirit of Patriotism, Internationalism, and High Political Vigilance".

Army General A.I. Gribkov, chief of staff of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, delivered the report "The Intensification of Imperialism's Psychological War Against the Socialist Countries Is a Constituent Part of NATO's Aggressive Plans: The Communist and Workers Parties' Struggle Against Bourgeois Ideology and Other Forms of Anticommunism".

The following generals and officers of the fraternal armies participated in the discussion of the report: Major General P. Khalkov (Bulgarian People's Army), Major General A. Palasti (Hungarian People's Army), Major General W. Zaroba (GDR National People's Army), Brigade General S. Rogowski (Polish Army), Colonel G. Neascu (Romanian Army), Colonel General V.N. Verevkin-Rakhalskiy (USSR Armed Forces), and Lieutenant General B. Kucera (Czechoslovak People's Army).

PRAVDA REJOINDER ON NATO'S 'YEAR OF NEUTRON BOMB'

LD211106 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2323 GMT 20 Dec 83

["Yet Another 'Present'" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Dec (TASS) -- PRAVDA publishes the following rejoinder today: It is known that the ancient Eastern Asian calendar calls each year by the symbol of a certain animal. Hence -- "the year of the dog," "year of the pig," "year of the mouse," etc. The NATO leadership has evidently adopted this system -- of course, amending it for its own specific purpose.

This conclusion is reached involuntarily when one reads the British weekly TRIBUNE's report that NATO "intends to make 1984 the year of the neutron bomb." This is what the British scientist, P. Rogers, thinks. Evidently, not without reason: At present, according to data published in the weekly, the North Atlantic bloc has 1,180 new units of neutron ammunition in the process of production, which it plans to deploy on the European continent in the form of warheads for "Lance" missiles and howitzer shells.

Thus, the U.S. "Pershings" and cruise missiles are not the only "present" from the NATO generals to the population of Western Europe. What more can be said? An unusual surprise for Christmas, indeed! NATO Headquarters in Brussels must have forgotten that the peoples have repeatedly and resolutely said "No!" to neutron weapons. It is time for this to be understood. The will of the peoples will not submit to the horoscopes of the NATO astrologists. It will cancel the neutron plans.

UN CONDEMNS U.S.-ISRAELI MILITARY COOPERATION

LD221423 Moscow TASS in English 1228 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 22 TASS -- On the final day of the 38th session of the UN General Assembly the United States suffered yet another political defeat. The session passed a resolution condemning strategic cooperation between the USA and Israel. The resolution demands that the USA refrain from strengthening Israel's military potential, which pushes Israel to aggressive actions against its neighbors. Actually the Reagan administration's entire policy in the Middle East -- the policy of interference in the internal affairs of Arab states and the encouragement of Israel to sanguinary crimes in the region -- was condemned. Eighty-one states voted for the resolution -- Arab, the main non-aligned states, socialist countries, and even two NATO members -- Greece and Turkey. Twenty-seven votes were cast against the resolution by the USA's NATO allies as well as by sanguinary dictatorial regimes in Latin America, the type of Chilean and Paraguayan ones.

The endorsement of the resolution dealt quite a substantial blow on Reagan's entire policy in the Middle East. First of all the administration's calculations that the intensive pressure which the White House put would produce the desired results have not come true. The United States has failed to force even friendly reactionary and so-called "moderate" Arab regimes to abandon co-sponsorship of the resolution.

The U.N. General Assembly session by passing this resolution has shown that the international community regards the "peace initiatives" coming from the White House as a propagandist cover for the joint U.S.-Israeli flagrant military interference in the internal affairs of Arab states and for Washington's trampling of the principles and goals of the Charter of the United Nations Organization.

WHITE HOUSE 'THRONE' OF 'KINGDOM OF LIES'

PM221117 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[T. Kolesnichenko "Rejoinder": "On the Throne of Lies and Slander"]

[Text] Hypocrisy and ignorance in themselves, taken separately, have never embellished a person, particularly if he is a responsible politician. But these are the laurels with which U. S. President R. Reagan once again decked himself, answering questions for the American magazine PEOPLE the other day.

"We do not intend to start a war," "War can only break out if they start it," the President exclaimed, his actor's voice trembling, forgetting "just for a moment" that he himself is the originator of a nuclear arms race program of an unprecedented scale. The magazine's readers will hardly include people naive enough to regard the MX, Trident, and Pershing missiles, which are first-strike weapons, as innocent toys or a means of "fighting for peace."

With the fanaticism of a crusader and inquisitor, Reagan again reiterated that he regards the Soviet Union as the "empire of evil," unlike the United States, which has supposedly done nothing but "disarm unilaterally." The Soviet Union, according to Reagan's malicious fabrications, seeks to "subjugate the entire world." Of course, there is no proof, nor can there be. There are only the unsubstantiated presidential references to the "public statements" by... "all the Soviet leaders" which allegedly exist on this score.

It is hard to say which there is most of in these words -- hypocrisy, ignorance, or shameless lying. If we are talking about the "empire of evil" and the kingdom of lies and slanders, its throne is in the White House. It is hardly worth being surprised at Reagan's maxims, when in the same interview he predicted... the end of the world. "This world and our life," he stated, "do not really belong to us." Therefore, all is vanity on this sinful earth, and above all (the President apparently emphasizes this) "all those" movements for a freeze on nuclear arsenals and for peace are senseless.

But the question arises: If R. Reagan believes so blindly in all the rubbish he talks, why is he so worried about preserving his own life, why does he wear a bulletproof vest? But the question is rhetorical. Those who are prepared to sacrifice human civilization as a rule think more than anything about their personal salvation, although there is as much sense in that as there is in R. Reagan's interview for the magazine PEOPLE.

'ASTRONOMICAL' PENTAGON BUDGET REQUESTS CITED

PM221429 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Trillions for Military Expenditure"]

[Text] New York, 21 Dec -- The Pentagon intends to ask for astronomical new appropriations for the development and production of the latest weapons systems. Evidence of this can be seen in the military department's secret document "5-Year Financial Plan for Expenditure in 1985-1989," from which excerpts have been published by THE BOSTON GLOBE.

This makes it clear that, according to the Pentagon leaders' schemes, military expenditure will reach $322.9 billion as early as 1985, and $464.4 billion by 1989.

The data cited in the document indicate that the U.S. military intends to continue its feverish efforts to build up first-strike weapons systems. The Pentagon is thus planning to request $25 billion over the next 5 years for the further production and deployment of MX ICBM's. It is planned to spend $21 billion to build an entire fleet of Trident nuclear submarines. The military department hopes to receive an additional $8.5 billion for the production of Trident II missiles for those submarines and $18 billion to build the new B-1B bomber.

The Pentagon's budget document makes it clear that expenditure on the development of antisatellite and laser weapons will increase at especially fast rates.

Total military expenditure over the 5 years should amount to almost $2 trillion. According to the U.S. press, however, these truly astronomical figures are already insufficient for the Pentagon generals' appetites, and they are requesting an additional appropriation of $200-300 billion.

SOLTAN COMMENTS ON PENTAGON 'CHRISTMAS TREE'

LD221649 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Yuriy Soltan comments on the Pentagon's Christmas tree:

If you ask an American where the most expensive Christmas tree in the United States is, he will answer the one in Rockefeller Plaza on New York's Fifth Avenue, or the tree in front of the White House in Washington, or even a tree in some billionaire's home. But all those answers are wrong. The most expensive Christmas tree is at the Pentagon. Although it has just ordinary decorations on it, and the tree itself is not so expensive, it's the Christmas present to the Pentagon that cost so much.

Just before Christmas, President Ronald Reagan signed the bill on military spending for fiscal 1984, which began on 1 October. The Pentagon got a record sum for peace time, nearly $250 billion. It'll be allowed to spend over $280 billion in 1 year. The military are satisfied, especially those who call the tune when it comes to the Pentagon and the administration. The owners of military corporations, especially those in California, are tickled pink. The man they put in the White House and his team are doing a good job of working off their debt; the more money is spent on war, the more orders are made, and that means more profits. That's all the more clear when you go to Room 342 in the Senate; there's a Christmas tree there too. It 's plain and not very big, just 1 and 1/2-meters high, but the decorations on it are pretty special -- they were made in the Pentagon. They are components for the latest weapons systems being produced by order of the Pentagon; they are the powerful MX intercontinental nuclear missiles, Trident I and Trident II nuclear submarines, B-1 missile carriers, and other so-called super weapons. In short, they are a vivid demonstration of the militarist plans of the current administration, its desire, no matter what the cost, to gain global military supremacy, to dictate to sovereign nations.

This policy, so dangerous to the United States as well as to humanity, is evident in other ways. In the United Nations the U.S. delegation, despite the position taken by most countries, votes against virtually every resolution geared to prevent nuclear war or to curb the nuclear arms race. Closing eyes and ears to widespread public protest in Europe, the United States is installing its first-strike nuclear missiles. American weapons, including nuclear weapons, are being built up in the Far East, in the Persian Gulf and off the shores of Central and South America.

In order to achieve its imperial goals the Reagan administration is going so far that one can't help but doubt whether Washington has any brakes to stop it from passing the boundary that no thinking person should cross. Just listen to what President Reagan said in a pre-Christmas interview: He said that this world and our life essentially don't belong to us. Perhaps the President sincerely believes in what he says. Well, that's his business, but others want their lives to belong to them. When the Reagan administration waves the nuclear club at the primary human right, the right to life, it can't help but prompt indignation and anger.

WICK AT USIA LIKENED TO ARSONIST AS FIREMAN

LD222003 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Washington December 22 TASS -- Charles Wick, director of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) and one of Ronald Reagan's cronies, has found himself in the centre of another scandal that has erupted on the banks of the Potomac.

Eighteen congressmen demanded an immediate resignation of that member of the so-called "Californian mafia" which is bossing the show in Washington.

Wick has long gained notoriety for his arrogance and loose tongue. The congressmen said in a letter to the White House that his world outlook was marked by a spirit of open discrimination, while his conduct was at least strange. They said that to leave that man in charge of the USIA would be tantamount to giving a maniac arsonist the job of a fireman.

The letter recalled, in particular, that, commenting in a recent speech in San Francisco on London's refusal openly to support the U.S. bandit attack on Grenada, Wick said that this posture of British Premier Margaret Thatcher could only be explained by her being a woman.

It is not the first time that the impudent gaffes of Wick and his patrons in the administration have drawn sharp criticisms in the United States. Just a short time ago he was justifiably criticized for having provided cushy jobs at his agency to children and other close relatives of highly-placed Washington bureaucrats, including Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, Secretary of the Navy John Lehman and other administration officials, as a personal favour to them.

It is only thanks to the President's backing that the USIA chief managed to get off that time. Observers believe, however, that he will "keep in the saddle" this time, too. A White House spokesman was quick to declare that Reagan trusted Wick as before. To finally silence those who are pressing for the resignation of that politician who does not know where to stop, an announcement was made in the President's office that the head of the incumbent administration and his wife planned celebrating Christmas at the Wicks' place.

MOTIVES FOR SHOWING 'DAY AFTER' FILM VIEWED

LD230052 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1935 GMT 22 Dec 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Vladimir Dunayev]

[Excerpt] Walter Mondale, who supports a freeze of nuclear arsenals, praised the film "The Day After" for its reflection of the heartache of atomic war, as he put it.

California Senator Alan Cranston, another pretender for the Democratic presidential nomination, even used the showing of the film to take up a collection for his election campaign, in 130 homes where there was collective viewing. The senator actively and emphatically opposes the arms race.

But how did the Reagan people come to permit the showing of such a film on the TV screens of America at all? It is known that the Pentagon wanted the film to be remade in the shape of a purely anti-Soviet broadcast. When this did not come off, the generals tried to call off the showing, which of course only heated up interest in the film. And the White House was calm about it. Reagan himself had seen the film at the beginning of November. Of course, if the President wished, he could have pulled strings so that the ABC television company would have had to keep the film under cover while in incipiency. But the White House, as it turned out, had its own interest. Reagan's people understood that they would lose something as a result of the showing of this film throughout America, but, they hoped, there was even more to be gained. How?

Focusing the attention of all America on the horror of nuclear war would help Reagan, his entourage thinks, to push through his program for the creation of an antimissile defense system based in space. That is, as the White House says to Americans, do not fight for peace, for a freeze, for disarmament -- we would be better to step up the creation of a mythical shield in space, we would need fear no nuclear bomb.

This is how craftily Reagan hopes to use the effect of the film; this is why he did not prevent its showing. But this maneuver was seen through and talked about by (?Tyler), the observer from THE WASHINGTON POST. In order to lessen the antiwar impact of the film, the White House instructed Secretary of State George Shultz to speak immediately after the film was shown on television, which he did. What a story.

PATOLICHEV, ARMAND HAMMER DISCUSS TRADE

LD221959 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1646 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow, 22 Dec (TASS) -- Nikolay Patolichev, USSR minister for foreign trade, today received Armand Hammer, chairman of the board of the U.S. firm Occidental Petroleum, and had a conversation with him on matters of the commercial relations between the Soviet foreign trade organizations and this firm.

U.S. POSTELECTION PRESSURE ON JAPAN PREDICTED

PM221535 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Worried..."]

[Text] Tokyo, 21 Dec -- The U.S. Embassy in Tokyo has launched fevrish activity, seeking, on Washington's instructions, to minimize the consequences of the defeat in the Japanese parliamentary elections for the ruling Liberal Democratic party [LDP], which pursues a pro-American course. U.S. diplomats and representatives of the special services, the press reports, have had dozens of unofficial meetings with LDP figures and parliamentary deputies from other parties in the last 3 days. In the course of these behind-the-scenes consultations the U.S. side is trying to secure the maintenance in power in Tokyo of a government fully in accordance with Washington's imperial interests.

At a press conference held in the U.S. capital yesterday, an official spokesman for the U.S. Administration stressed that the United States insists on the unconditional fulfillment of all the promises given by Y. Nakasone's cabinet to his partner across the ocean. First and foremost, KYODO notes, Washington has in mind Tokyo's commitments to sharply increase military spending and extend the sphere of operations by its armed forces to cover a considerable region of the northwestern Pacific.

The newspaper MAINICHI believes that Washington has adopted a decision to use "strong-arm" tactics still more openly on Japan in the attempts to maintain Nakasone's pro-American line, which was rejected by the majority of the country's population.

'DESPERATE STRUGGLE' UNLEASHED IN DIET

LD230044 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1935 GMT 22 Dec 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Vladimir Dunayev]

[Text] The most intersting events are those that do not develop according to a scenario written in advance, those that are unexpected. The election to the Japanese House of Representatives is precisely one such event. It is not just that almost all the specialists were in error, and incorrect forecasts were given by political observers. Prime Minister and leader of the ruling party Yasuhiro Nakasone took every precaution necessary so that there would be nothing unexpected. Reagan flew to Tokyo, he posed with Nakasone, and demonstrated some trade concessions, however insignificant. The leaders of the FRG and China were invited to Tokyo before the elections, and Nakasone made unprecedented tax cuts in the autumn before the elections. These are only to rise in the spring after the elections. Before this, several months back, the ruling party won an impressive victory in elections to the House of Councillors. It was all done like a parliamentary game played out by Malinin and Burenin, but the answer that came was not the one that was expected.

Of course, the ruling party had its problem: Former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka was sentenced for bribery. He refused to leave parliament and became a symbol of corruption, and on his account the ruling party prepared to lose a dozen (?and a half) seats, but not 36 as in fact happened. What else? The Liberal Democratic Party nevertheless scraped together a majority in some votes -- so-called independent deputies -- moved over to the banner of this very party; they were bought, and in a majority the party will obviously remain the ruling one, and form a government.

The opposition to whom this unexpected success fell is on the whole shattered and disunited; this is a hindrance, but it is a particularity in the work of the Japanese Diet that bills there are discussed in committees, that is where attitudes to legislation are generally formed. At present, there are 18 such committees in the Japanese Diet, and the ruling party is losing control in a majority of these committees. This is fairly important. As soon as this postelection shock passes over in the ruling party, a desperate struggle will immediately be unleashed, both within the party over the post of prime minister, which Nakasone will not keep so easily, and over ministerial portfolios, but mainly for a return to previous positions and party influences; and here, of course, they will try to find a scapegoat for the current failure. The Fukuda-Kamoto faction will attack the Nakasone and Tanaka faction. The election spoiled the game, now who is going to shuffle?

Well, the lessons of the elections are obvious: Tanaka's curruption and Nakasone's desire to turn Japan into an unsinkable aircraft carrier for the United States are not acceptable to the country.

S. KOREAN STUDENTS SENTENCED TO JAIL TERMS

SK230336 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] The Seoul court sentenced 15 university students, arrested during a protest against Chon Tu-hwan's dictatorship and the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. troops, to jail terms.

Stereotyped charges of conducting subversion and sabotage or of scattering leaflets calling for the struggle for democracy were imposed on those students.

Even according to official data, about 400 students have been imprisoned this year.

CPSU DELEGATION VISITS MONGOLIA 13-20 DEC

PM221511 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A delegation of CPSU party workers headed by A. Karypkulov, secretary of the Kirghiz Communist Party Central Committee, was in Mongolia from 13 through 20 December under the plan for CPSU-MPRP interparty ties, to exchange experience of party leadership in the development of health care and social security.

The delegation was received by Yu. Tsedenbal, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium.

SOVIET YOUTH LEAGUE MEMBER ON TRIP TO DPRK

SK230314 Moscow in Korean to Korea 0930 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Talk by reporter (Alexandr Zepulyuk), member of a youth delegation of the Primorskiy Kray which some time ago visited North Hamgyong Province at the invitation of the North Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK], from the feature program introducing the Primorskiy Kray]

[Text] Our delegation received a warm welcome everywhere we went in the DPRK. At Najin port, we were greeted by representatives of the youths' organizations of the city and port functionaries.

We stayed in Najin for a few days. The members of the delegation cherish the good impressions of the meetings they had in the city. It is not groundless that Najin is called a port of Soviet-Korean friendship. The port is being reconstructed and expanded with Soviet cooperation. Vessels under the Soviet national flag frequently call there with cargoes demanded by the economy of People's Korea. Many Soviet engineers are working at the port. For this reason, we could hear praise of the Soviet Union and the cooperation between our two peoples wherever we visited.

I remember a meeting with colleague Yun Chong-ok, chairman of the Najin Port Committee of the LSWYK. Colleague Yun Chong-ok, an energetic female youth, is loved by her colleagues.

Our delegation also visited Chongjin City. The city is well known to many residents of the Primorskiy Kray who have been there as members of delegations or as tourists. Korean friends guided us to famous places, new buildings, and historical sites in the city.

We laid wreaths before the obelisk to commemorate the fallen fighters of the Soviet Army, which participated in the combat to liberate Chongjin from the Japanese occupiers in August 1945. Not forgetting their liberators, the Chongjin citizens take good care of the tombs of the soldiers who died while fighting for the liberation of Korea.

We also inspected the Kim Chaek Iron Mill, which is a modern enterprise leading the metallurgical industry of the People's Korea. At the plant, we also met people from the Primorskiy Kray. Along with other Soviet engineers, they are helping the Korean friends organize a new kind of production and are teaching them technology.

In a word, our visit to the People's Korea to meet our friends gave us great impressions. Next year a youth delegation from the North Hamgyong Province will come to the Primorskiy Kray. When they come, we will greet them and introduce to them our success.

These contacts are, doubtless, very beneficial.

KUTAKHOV CONCLUDES INDIAN VISIT, DEPARTS

LD230659 Moscow TASS in English 0644 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi December 23 TASS -- The commander of the Air Force -- Deputy Defence Minister of the USSR Chief Air Marshall Pavel Kutakhov has ended his official visit to India and left for home today. At the international Palam Airport he was seen off by chief of staff of India's Air Force, Chief Air Marshal Dilbagh Singh, other Indian military leaders.

The negotiations that were held during the visit between Pavel Kutakhov and Dilbagh Singh and Indian Defence Minister Ramaswamy Venkataraman promoted further consolidation of links between the Armed Forces of India and the Soviet Union, friendship between the peoples of both countries.

'REPRESSIONS, TERROR' IN PAKISTAN VIEWED, DECRIED

PM221925 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 22 Dec 83 p 3

[Yevgeniy Mova article under the rubric "International Notes": "Islamabad Authorities' Terror"]

[Text] A military court in Pakistan has sentenced three Islamabad University professors to long periods of hard labor and large fines for speaking out against the military regime. The military authorities refused to submit to a demand from the country's scientific community to pardon the scholars.

This is only one episode in the Islamabad regime's continuing attack on Pakistanis' political and civil rights. Virtually all sectors of the country's population and representatives of the most diverse professions who speak out for democracy and freedom are subject to victimization and persecution.

It is trade union members who, as a rule, are subject to the most brutal terror since they unite the Pakistani proletariat and are the most persistent in their struggle against the antipeople regime. As (Mokhammed Sharif), president of the Pakistani National Trade Union Federation, stated, "We are faced with a real threat to the very existence of trade unions." The military administration has adopted severe antiworker laws banning work stoppages, strikes, and demonstrations. Any attempt at protest is brutally suppressed, and the "guilty" are sentenced to hard labor and strokes of the lash. The "peace and quiet" in the country is maintained not only by the army and the police, but also by a specially created staff of informers, spies, and provocateurs.

The press has become the target for a frontal attack from the military regime. Further steps have been taken to toughen press censorship. By government decree a decision has been taken to set up special coordinating committees in all the country's provinces which are called on to step up propaganda of the Ziaul Haq regime's policies with the help of the mass media. The press, radio, and television are forbidden to criticize the activities of the military administration and courts-martial. The activities of the All-Pakistan Newspaper Publishers' Society, the Standing Council of Editors, the Pakistani Journalists' Union, and the All-Pakistan Confederation of Newspaper Workers are under the tight control of the regime. As R. Zafarul Haq, information and broadcasting minister, has stated, the authorities will continue to purge newspaper editorial bureaus and the radio and television apparatus of "unreliable people."

Even the military -- one of the fundamental props of the present regime -- are subject to repression. One need only recall the sensational trials of the officers and men from military units billeted in Rawalpindi, Peshawar, and Karachi, who, gun in hand, demonstrated against the government's antipeople policy. Seven people were executed and several hundred servicemen were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

To toughen repression still further the military regime is trying to quash the slightest legal obstacles in the way of implementing its antidemocratic measures. A calculated attack is under way on legal and judicial organs. By decree of Ziaul Haq all judges in Pakistan have been given the choice of either swearing an oath of allegiance to the Islamabad cohort of generals and their domestic and foreign policy or being fired and repressed. This decree is arousing justifiable indignation among Pakistani lawyers. A statement by the lawyers of Lahore and Karachi says bluntly that the aforesaid decree "is a treacherous act intended to eliminate the rule of law in the country and extend the continuation in power of an illegal regime that is ruling Pakistanis on the basis of martial law."

However, no repressions and terror can bring the Pakistani people to their knees. Discontent with the existing order in Pakistan is so great that even Mufti Mahmud, one-time chairman of the Pakistan National Alliance, which unites the right-wing religious parties that initially supported Ziaul Haq, stated: "The military regime has turned Pakistan into a grave from which the voice of protest cannot be heard. We can no longer tolerate the military junta." It is hardly necessary to add anything to these bitter words.

USTINOV GREETS SRV COUNTERPART ON ARMY DAY

PM221202 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To Army General Comrade Van Tien Dung, SRV minister of national defense

Esteemed comrade minister! On behalf of the Soviet Armed Forces and personally, I cordially congratulate you and all Vietnamese soldiers on the 39th anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Army.

Founded by the Communist Party, the Vietnam's People's Armed Forces defended the motherland's freedom, independence, and unity in prolonged struggle. Under the conditions of increased threat against peace by U.S. imperialism, the Vietnamese soldiers vigilantly guard their people's revolutionary gains and reliably protect Socialist Vietnam's independence and sovereignty against intrigues by reactionary forces. I wish the personnel of the Vietnamese People's Army further successes in strengthening the SRV's defense capability and implementing the tasks set by the Vietnam Communist Party congress.

With communist greetings,

Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, USSR defense minister

SRV AWARDS USTINOV FOR 'CONTRIBUTION' TO ARMY

PM221019 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[Text] On behalf of the State Council, SRV Ambassador to the USSR Dinh Nho Liem awarded the Ho Chi Minh Order on 21 December to Marshal of the Soviet Union Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, for his big contribution to the development of Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and to strengthening the Vietnamese People's Army.

Dinh Nho Liem warmly congratulated Comrade Ustinov on the award and wished him further successes in his responsible work. In reply Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov described this award as recognition of the international services of the Soviet people and its Armed Forces and the eminent role of the CPSU and the Soviet state led by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to the consolidating of comprehensive cooperation between the USSR and Vietnam, their peoples and armies. He cordially thanked the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and the SRV State Council.

Marshal of the Soviet Union Ogarkov, Marshal of the Soviet Union Kulikov, Marshal of the Soviet Union Sokolov, and also Nguyen Van Kuang, plenipotentiary minister at the Vietnamese Embassy, and Military Attache Major General Le Tan were present at the award ceremony.

SRV ARMY READY TO 'REBUFF ANY ENCROACHMENTS'

PM222006 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[Ye. Leng article under the rubric "22 December Is Vietnamese People's Army Day": "Always Ready"]

[Excerpt] Friendship between the Soviet Union and Vietnam and between the fraternal countries' armed forces is strengthening with every year.

"The Vietnamese People's Army is proud to have a great friend -- the USSR Armed Forces," Army General Chu Huy Man, chief of the Vietnamese People's Army Main Political Directorate, pointed out. "We have studied and are continuing to study progressive experience of Soviet military art, creatively applying it under Vietnam's specific conditions."

Educated by the party in the spirit of devotion to the ideas of proletarian internationalism, servicemen of the Vietnamese People's Army are giving the people of Kampuchea fraternal assistance. Together with Kampuchea and Laos, Vietnam advocates turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, cooperation, and stability.

Unfortunately, the situation in that region remians tense. The situation in the region of the Thai-Kampuchean border is having an adverse effect on the entire situation as a whole. Responsibility for this lies with external forces that are not interested in easing tension between the states of Indochina and the ASEAN countries.

"The memory of the U.S. pullout from Vietnam has been effaced.."-- the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, which is frequently called the mouthpiece of the U.S. military-industrial complex, wrote not so long ago. Indded, for the present master of the White House the "Vietnam syndrome" is an annoying hindrance which must be consigned to oblivion as soon as possible.

And now an undeclared war is flaring up against Nicaragua, bombs are exploding in Lebanon, and U.S. "commandos" are committing excesses in Grenada. The White House began the Vietnam adventure by sending "military advisers" to Vietnam. The same thing is happening today in El Salvador, where "advisers" very soon become 100-percent goons. A striking similarity. It was no accident that a foreign newspaper published a cartoon depicting U.S. soldier explaining to his colleague: "Translated from the Spanish, 'El Salvador' means 'Vietnam'..."

When the United States was experiencing the "Vietnam syndrome," we liked to believe that that country's leaders had committed to their long-term memory the lessons of the war in Vietnam, the chief of which is that nowadays nothing can break the will of a people struggling for their national and social liberation. But Washington evidently has a short memory.

People in the SRV have a good memory for history. And this is why the Vietnamese People's Army today keeps its powder dry, ready to deal a rebuff to any encroachments upon the revolution's gains.

SOLOMENTSEV RECEIVES LAO PARTY DELEGATION

PM221120 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Familiarization With Work Experience"]

[Text] A group of party workers of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) led by K. Keobualapha, deputy chairman of the LPRP Central Committee Party And State Control Committee and of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (LPDR) Council of Ministers, was in the Soviet Union from 8 through 19 December in accordance with the plan for interparty links between the CPSU and the LPRP.

The Lao comrades familiarized themselves with the work experience of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, party commissions of local party organs, the USSR People's Control Committee, and People's Control organs in the localities.

The group of LPRP workers was received by M.S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee; I.S. Gustov, first deputy chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, took part in the warm and friendly conversation with the Lao comrades.

AUSTRALIAN PROTEST AGAINST UK NUCLEAR CARRIER

LD222137 Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Canberra December 22 TASS -- A demonstration of protest against the stay of the British aircraft-carrier "Invincible" with nuclear weapons on board on the roads of Sydney has taken place on the embankment of that Australian city. Police arrested three women who sailed to the ship on a boat wanting, according to demonstrators, to write the slogans "No to nuclear war" and "Peace to earth" on its hull.

London and Washington are bringing pressure to bear on the Australian Government in a bid to make it allow the "Invincible" into the Sydney dry dock for repair. Anti-war organizations and trade unions in the fifth continent are vigorously opposing this.

They say that the permit will contradict the government's policy of not allowing nuclear weapons into Australia.

SFRY'S SPILJAK RESPONDS TO SOVIET GREETINGS

LD230030 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 2000 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] A telegram from Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, has arrived for the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The telegram says: On behalf of the SFRY Presidency and on my own behalf, I express cordial gratitude to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the CPSU Central Committee, and the USSR Council of Ministers for the congratulations and best wishes sent on Republic Day and the 40th anniversary of the second session of the Anti-Fascist Council of National Liberation of Yugoslavia. I am convinced that the further all-round development of Yugoslav-Soviet friendship and cooperation, founded upon well-known and mutually established principles, corresponds to the vital interests of the peoples of our two socialist countries and serves equal cooperation, mutual understanding, and peace throughout the world.

SFRY CELEBRATES PEOPLE'S ARMY DAY ANNIVERSARY

LD230038 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] People's Army day is being marked today in Yugoslavia. Our correspondent, Aleksandr Shakhin, reports:

This day in December is an especially memorable one in the history of new Yugoslavia. On this day in 1941, the first regular unit was set up from detachments of partisans. It received the name of First Proletarian Brigade. Thus the People's Liberation Army of Yugoslavia was born.

Today the Yugoslav People's Army is made up of well-equipped land, air, and naval units, and it is armed with modern tanks and jet planes as well as torpedo and rocket boats. The greetings message from the leaders of the country to the Armed Forces states that the Yugoslav Army has a popular and revolutionary character. "The working class and all our peoples," the message to the servicemen says, "have devoted defenders of freedom and socialism in you."

I would like to quote here my recent interlocutor, Colonel General Miladin Ivanovic, when he was telling of the joint struggle of the Soviet and Yugoslav divisions against the fascist invaders. "Remembering those years," the war veteran said, "I think of today's situation in the world. The U.S. rockets in Europe represent a threat to peace and socialism. All of us must be ready to defend the peaceful creative life of our countries."

In the evening, salutes in honor of the festive day resounded in Belgrade and in the capitals of the republics. The country is solemnly marking the birthday of its People's Army.

Ustinov Greets Counterpart

PM221156 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To Admiral of the Fleet Comrade B. Mamula, SFRY federal secretary for national defense:

Esteemed Comrade Federal Secretary!

On behalf of the Soviet Armed Forces and personally, I send you and all Yugoslav soldiers sincere congratulations and militant greetings on the 42d anniversary of the Yugoslav People's Army.

I wish the personnel of the Yugoslav People's Army new successes in improving their combat skills in order to strengthen their socialist motherland's defense capability.

I am deeply convinced that the development of relations between the USSR Armed Forces and the Yugoslav People's Army in the spirit of friendship and all-round cooperation corresponds with the interests of our countries' peoples and serves the cause of peace and socialism.

With communist greetings;

Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, USSR defense minister

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA on Anniversary

PM221431 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 22 December 1983 in its Second Edition carries a 1,200-word article on page 3 by Major N. Andreyev marking Yugoslav People's Army Day and titled "Heirs of Glorious Traditions."

Andreyev describes a visit to Yugoslavia by a group of Soviet Army political workers, traces at some length the history of the Yugoslav People's Army since its founding on 22 December 1941, and concludes:

"It is not only the combat past that unites the Soviet people and the Yugoslav peoples. Our socialist countries share common goals -- to preserve peace and build a communist society. The 26th CPSU Congress noted: 'Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation is progressing in many spheres. The agreed principles and accords provide a good base for its further development. Soviet-Yugoslav friendship is deeply rooted and we have no doubts about its future.'

"The traditional cooperation between the Soviet Armed Forces and the Yugoslav People's Army continues to develop. Businesslike contacts are also maintained between political organs. Our visit served as a confirmation of this. The Yugoslav People's Army Political workers shared with us their experience in work on the moral and political education of personnel and spoke of its specific features under today's conditions, when the Yugoslav working people, led by the LCY, are resolving complex creative problems.

"Today, on the 42d anniversary of the Yugoslav People's Army, Soviet soldiers send their Yugoslav comrades-in-arms warm congratulations and wishes for further successes in improving their military skills and enhancing the combat ability and combat readiness of their Armed Forces for the benefit of the socialist motherland."

USSR-SFRY ECONOMIC SYMPOSIUM OPENS IN MOSCOW

LD222117 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 2000 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Excerpts] A Soviet-Yugoslav symposium on the theme of topical questions of the economic development of the USSR and Yugoslavia and problems of economic cooperation opened yesterday in Moscow. Taking part in the work of the symposium are leading Soviet and Yugoslav economists, including Academicians Oleg Bogomolov, Aleksey Rumyantsev, Branislav Soskic, Jakov Sirotkovic, and other eminent scientists. The symposium was opened by Director of the Institute of Economics of the World Socialist System Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences Academician Oleg Bogomolov.

[Begin Bogomolov recording in Russian fading into Serbo-Croatian translation] The present meeting with Yugoslav scientists will facilitate the exchange of views on current economic problems pertaining to the development of our countries. [end recording]

Those present were then addressed by President of the Federal Economic Council Dr Dragomir Vojnic, who said:

[Begin Vojnic recording] Allow me, Comrade Bogomolov, comrades, to thank you most sincerely for this invitation to organize a joint scientific gathering at which we can discuss current problems of the socioeconomic development of Yugoslavia and the USSR and problems of our bilateral economic relations. This is the first time that such a large group of Yugoslav economists, scientific workers, have all come at the same time on a visit to this institute. However, our scientific links in the area of the socioeconomic development of Yugoslavia and the USSR are, we can freely say, traditional. Our cooperation up to now has been very fruitful and useful for both sides, and we are firmly convinced that this cooperation will be further expanded and continued. [end recording]

The first meeting at the symposium was devoted to the following theme: the economic development in the USSR and Yugoslavia, the present situation, and question of strategy.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION ENDS VISIT TO POLAND

LD230025 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2100 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] The official friendly visit to Poland by a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, headed by Vitaliy Ruben, chairman of the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has ended. The delegation was in the PPR at the invitation of the Sejm of the republic, and held talks with the speaker of the Sejm, Gucwa. During the talks, the useful and constructive nature of contacts between parliamentarians of both countries was noted. The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation also visited the main board of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society. The delegation left for the homeland Thursday.

JARUZELSKI ATTENDS REGIMENTAL PARTY CONFERENCE

PM221958 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Important Campaign"]

[Text] Warsaw, 21 Dec -- An important campaign -- the reports and elections -- is coming to a close within the PZPR. The army communists are playing an active part in it. A report and election conference was held at the W. Wysocki First Praga Motorized Regiment party organization. Army General W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Defense Council, participated in it.

The conference delegates analyzed the results of the party organization's activity since the Ninth PZPR Congress. The report and debate were dominated by subjects linked directly with the life of the Armed Forces and the combat and political training of the regiment's personnel. The speakers noted the need to comprehensively enhance the ideological-political tempering of young soldiers and wage a determined struggle against the bourgeois ideology being implanted by the subversion centers of Western propaganda.

It was emphasized at the party conference that, under the conditions of the tense international situation and the growing threat to peace as a result of militarist intrigues by the United States and NATO, it is necessary to improve combat training and strengthen Poland's defense capability. It is exceptionally important for Poland's security to maintain the alliance with the USSR and the cooperation and joint actions within the Warsaw Pact framework.

Addressing the party conference, W. Jaruzelski outlined the tasks of the republic's Armed Forces in the year of Poland's 40th anniversary. He highly assessed Polish Army personnel, who are fulfilling their patriotic duty to the motherland and firmly guarding the Polish people's peaceful labor.

POLISH-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP CONGRESS ASSAILS U.S.

PM221901 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Command of the Heart and of Reason"]

[Text] Warsaw, 21 Dec -- The 11th national Polish-Soviet Friendship Society Congress which has ended here adopted a resolution entitled "In Defense of Peace."

The resolution stresses: We resolutely protest against the policy of aggression and militarism being pursued by the United States and its NATO allies. Bellicose U.S. militarism is striving to establish world supremacy. It has declared a new "crusade" against communism and is deploying nuclear missiles in Western Europe. This is a suicidal policy and we resolutely protest against it.

The Soviet Union and the entire socialist community, the resolution points out, are countering the policy of militarism and war with a policy of peace and detente. We resolutely support the peace-loving policy of the USSR and the CPSU, the Soviet peace initiatives, and Comrade Yu. V. Andropov's statements and proposals, and will help to implement them.

In the present situation, the document stresses, Polish-Soviet friendship is acquiring special significance. Strengthening it is not only a command of the heart and of reason but is also vitally significant for Poles. We call on the members of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society and all working people in the country to increase their efforts to defend peace, to strengthen Polish-Soviet friendship and fraternity -- the guarantee of our people's peaceful socialist future -- by word and deed, and to build the security and prosperity of People's Poland by productive labor.

The resolution stresses: Strengthening the alliance, friendship, and cooperation with the Soviet land and with all the socialist community and displaying activeness in implementing our joint foreign policy -- these are the common tasks of all Poles and of all the social forces in the country.

GSFG, GDR-USSR AMITY SOCIETY PLAN ACTIVITIES

PM222001 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[Lieutenant Colonel A. Amelichev report: "To Strengthen Fraternal Friendship"]

[Text] The signing of a 1984 plan for joint measures by the Political Directorate of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany [GFSG] and the Central Board of the Society for German-Soviet Friendship took place at the officers' house of the GFSG 21 December.

The plan provides for further expanding and strengthening the friendship and brotherhood between soldiers of the GFSG and GDR working people, who are preparing to festively celebrate the GDR's 35th anniversary next year. The subdivisions and units of the GFSG will be addressed by representatives from bezirk and kreis boards of the Society for German-Soviet Friendship. There will be military-political forums with representatives of the GSFG and the GDR National People's Army participating, speeches by Soviet political workers to the young people of the republic's cities and villages, visits by GSFG soldiers to industrial enterprises and agricultural cooperatives, and other measures.

In an atmosphere of warmth and cordiality, the plan for joint measures was signed by Colonel General A. Lizichev, member of the Military Council and chief of the GSFG Main Political Directorate, and H. Kuhrig, member of the SED Central Committee and vice president of the Society for German-Soviet Friendship.

CSSR PROTESTS FRG HARBORING OF WAR CRIMINALS

PM221556 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Butchers Walk About at Liberty"]

[Text] Prague, 20 Dec -- The growing activeness of various revanchist "landsmannschafts" in West Germany is arousing serious concern among Czechoslovak citizens. Their impudent demands for postwar borders to be revised and their claims to the territories of socialist countries are becoming extremely dangerous in the modern international situation. In this connection, the need to punish the former Nazi butchers who are living quietly in the FRG is becoming urgent, Karel Kamis, secretary of the Czechoslovak Government Commission for Instituting Court Proceedings Against Nazi War Criminals, told a TASS correspondent. This is not just a matter of just retribution for crimes but a specific form of the struggle against fascism, the struggle to preserve world peace. Unfortunately, murderers whose hands are stained with the blood of innocent people still have their defenders in West Germany.

One of these butchers is former SS Hauptsturmfuehrer Walter (Gauk) known for his reprisals against fighters of the antifascist resistance movement in France. Transferred to Czechoslovakia at the end of the war, he was in charge of the SS garrison in the city of Pelhrimov. A massacre of 25 peaceful inhabitants of the village of Leskovice was carried out under his direct leadership 5 and 6 May 1945.

Czechoslovakia has submitted 41 notarized eyewitness accounts to FRG organs about atrocities by SS men under (Gauk's) command. The documents unambiguously prove the monster's guilt. However, he continues to live quietly at an address known both to the Czechoslovak side and to West German justice.

This is a far from isolated instance of the harboring of Nazi criminals. The government commission has passed 90 sets of documents relating to such crimes to FRG investigative organs. However, none of those who committed the crimes has ever appeared before a court. They include such odious figures as Ernst (Gerke), former Prague Gestapo chief guilty of the deaths of thousands of people; (Kvido Magvitts), former Gestapo chief in Tesin, and many others.

The harboring of Nazi criminals who have committed crimes against humanity is incompatible both with the pledges of the World War II allies and with the norms of international law. However, the butchers remain at liberty, living not only in the FRG but also in the United States and a number of Latin American states. However, their crimes are not likely to be forgotten. Czechoslovakia has a right to demand the extradition of war criminals for just punishment.

NEW EUROPEAN INITIATIVE ON MISSILES URGED

PM221044 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 21 Dec 83 p 3

[Article by international observer G. Dadyants: "When Illusions Fade"]

[Text] All indications show that the leaders of a number of West European NATO countries are not feeling very confident. In defiance of the clearly expressed will of West Europe's peoples and also disregarding the Soviet Union's warnings, they have given the "green light" for siting new U.S. missiles near the borders of the socialist community.

Of course, certain West European leaders were intoxicated by the idea of the United States achieving military superiority over the Soviet Union, and NATO achieving military superiority over the Warsaw Pact. But West Europe saw the Pershing II and cruise missiles primarily as political weapons. In their heart of hearts, West European leaders hoped that things would not reach the point where the Pershing II missiles were deployed and that the USSR would make concessions to the United States.

It has now become clear that this entire policy linked to NATO'S so-called "two-track decision" was built on sand. There will be no military superiority for the United States over the USSR or for NATO over the Warsaw Pact. The start of the missile deployment has not forced the USSR to make unilateral concessions. It simply signified the terrible prelude to a new and extremely dangerous spiral of the nuclear arms race, with all the ensuing dangerous consequences both for the world as a whole and for West Europe in particular. The situation is that the missiles are being sited and the talks are not being resumed. After the period of euphoria, a severe hangover is beginning for West Europe.

Fear of being held responsible for what they have done is forcing the leaders of a number of West European countries not only to justify themselves to their own peoples, who are besieging the U.S. nuclear bases, but also to grope for ways to a possible compromise.

In this regard, even the winter session of the NATO Council, held in a militarist fever, was worth noting. The session not only celebrated Reagan's "victory" over the West European peoples but, the press reports, expressed serious doubts as to the advisability of siting U.S. missiles in Europe and as to whether the U.S. Administration in general is capable of making the correct decisions on political and military-strategic questions.

The so-called "Brussels declaration" bears, in the final analysis, not so much the stamp of "unity" among the allies on the approach toward problems of East-West relations, but rather the mark of the deep disagreements between the United States and West Europe on this question. On the one hand, it is allegedly a purely "American" declaration since it is based on the "position of strength" policy. On the other hand, "European nuances" can clearly be seen in it since it speaks of the need to instigate a political dialogue with the East and to develop economic ties and balanced disarmament.

Britain's THE TIMES thinks that the Brussels document is aimed solely at pacifying public opinion, at attempting to reduce the alarm of the participants in the antiwar movement in West Europe over the start of the U.S. missile deployment. It is hard not to agree with that. But THE WASHINGTON POST, looking somewhat deeper, also sees in it a West European desire "to adopt positive positions on the question of East-West cooperation, talks, and detente." This is obviously also true.

As the West European governments lose their illusions about the "salutary" influence of the start of missile siting on East-West talks, anti-U.S. sentiments will begin to be displayed increasingly actively. "Certain U.S. officials," THE NEW YORK TIMES' Brussels correspondent reports, "have already cautiously started to find out from the West Europeans how much time, in their opinion, the United States has left before it starts to experience pressure from the West European governments for concessions which could reopen the possiblity of holding talks on medium-range missiles. The reply is that there is not much time left."

Unfortunately, all the West European leaders' "good intentions" are, for the time being, serving to pave the road to the nuclear hell that Washington is preparing for West Europe. "What is at issue is a key question," the West German FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU writes. "Does the alliance serve the defense of West European intersts or is NATO an instrument of the U.S. policy of world domination?" In the newspaper's opinion, the United States' European partners did not succeed in Brussels in putting the United States back on the road of detente. At the same time, the satisfaction expressed by Shultz, Genscher, and others regarding NATO's "cohesion," in light of the existing differences, is reminiscent of "the buzz of a mosquito, just like the statement about some kind of signals from Brussels."

What "signals" are these, exactly? A signal can only be unambiguous -- a return to the situation prevailing before the U.S. missiles started to be deployed. If the West European leaders are indeed alarmed by the deplorable results of the "war and peace" game into which the Americans have dragged them, then they should counter the lunatic U.S. course with a truly positive initiative worthy of attention. Bids to "mediate" between the USSR and the United States can only be meaningless as long as U.S. missiles or their components are on European soil.

The difficult situation in which certain West European countries find themselves thanks to the shortsighted policy of their leaders can be understood. It is compounded by the fact that Washington is exerting pressure on West Europe not only militarily and politically, but also economically, by destabilizing its economy with the help of the dollar's inflated rate of excahnge and high interest rates and by drawing the West European countries into financing expensive U.S. nuclear and conventional arms programs. In the final analysis, the Pershing and cruise missiles are aimed not only against the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries but are meant to strengthen U.S. domination of West Europe by forcing it to be more malleable under the threat of being turned into atomic ash.

The severe hangover that West Europe is currently experiencing is just the first symptom of the forthcoming sobering-up process linked with the growing aggressiveness of the U.S. militarist course and the collapse of anti-Soviet illusions.

FRENCH RAPID ACTION FORCE, AIMS CRITICIZED

PM221041 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 51, 18 Dec 83 (Signed to Press 13 Dec 83) p 7

[Yuriy Buksin article: "Jaguars Approach the Target"]

[Text] What has been meaningfully withheld by the politicians has been revealed by a military man. General Charles de Llamby, commander of the 1st Army stationed partially in the east of France and partially across the Rhine, on West German territory, said without beating about the bush: The French "Rapid Action Force" (FAR) is ready for operations in the center of Europe.

Much has been said before about the multipurpose mission of the French "rapid action" units. However, their main mission was designated as "aid" to the friendly overseas (African) countries with which France is linked by defence agreements.

In Strasbourg, de Llamby dotted all the i's: The Warsaw Treaty member-countries are the enemy. The general's statement has now been backed up by his immediate chief, Charles Hernu, minister of defence of France, in the explanation to the draft for modernizing the land forces. Pride of place in the document is given to the creation of the FAR, it being intended to carry out combat operations outside French territory.

It is planned to bring up the total numerical strength of the new formations, whose deployment will be completed in 1984, to 47,000. Among others, they will include airborne, infantry, and armoured troops, as well as a number of special subunits. The FAR will be reinforced with 240 helicopters and the latest missile systems. FAR subunits have already been included in the French contingent of the so-called multinational forces deployed in Lebanon by the USA and other Western countries. They also belong to the expeditionary corps sent by France to Chad.

Charles Hernu made it clear that his ministry's plans also provide for the participation of the French FAR in the combat operations of the NATO land forces deployed in Western Europe.

What happened was what had to happen, and against which many deputies to the National Assembly acted in the course of the debates on the 1984 military budget. France has returned de facto to the NATO military organization. What has happened is what Charles de Gaulle rebelled against 17 years ago.

The possibility of "concerted action" between the French units and the NATO forces in the center of the European Continent, as has been reported in the press, has been taken into account in the NATO military programmes. This possibility has already become a reality. General de Llamby, to whom the mission of building the FAR has been entrusted, told journalists that from now on the question is of elaborating jointly with the allies the "procedures of actions" for these forces on the European theater. In particular, the FAR will receive access to the fuel and ammunition depots, including anti-tank missiles, on the territory of the NATO member-countries. The question of ensuring the immediate transfer of FAR infantry units across allied territory has also been examined. Is this not something greater than simply technical and tactical cooperation between French Army units and the armed forces of their NATO allies? Some politicians in Paris believe that behind the screen of cooperation lingers the threat of the loss of the French Army's independence. But this, as we see, does not at all concern General de Llamby.

Thus, the aim of the FAR is Europe. But not it alone. In this sense, the statements of French politicians and military men are backed up by specific deeds. Recently, the country's press reported a 6,000-km-long nonstop flight of two Jaguar tactical support combat aircraft. This is not merely news of breaking the record for flight distance.

Taking off with full military equipment from the base in Toulon, the planes were twice refuelled in the air. They could reach and raid Ndjamena (Chad), where, as we have said, a FAR subunit is attached to the expeditionary corps, and Ouagadougou (Upper Volta) where a progressive government has recently come to power. In the Middle East the Jaguars reach Tehran and Baghdad.

No, this is not merely evidence of the technical capabilities of the French Air Force. It is indisputable that in the given case the technology is placed at the service of the military doctrine.

The doctrine is an offensive one, and its success has been made directly dependent on the possibility of delivering a first strike. The doctrine is also colonial, which is attested to by the targets in the Third World countries, above all Africa, designated on the French military pilots' aerial maps.

One need not be an expert to see a dangerous parallel. The new French "rapid action force" is being created after the pattern of the American "Rapid Deployment Force," which the Pentagon has already used for the fulfilment of police functions in various regions of the world (recently in Grenada) and for suppressing national liberation movements. As the saying goes, a bad example is infectious. This imitation of the Pentagon is fraught with the gravest consequences, including for the imitators.

SWISS TO QUESTION FRENCH NUCLEAR WAR TACTICS

PM211059 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[Correspondent I. Shchedrov report: "Imposing the 'Nuclear Umbrella"]

[Text] Paris, 16 Dec — "Is Switzerland Threatened by French Missiles?" LE FIGARO publishes a report under this heading by its Geneva correspondent. It is well known that official spokesmen in Paris have persistently claimed recently that, if local conflict planned in North Atlantic alliance headquarters broke out in Europe, the French Armed Forces, jointly with subdivisions from the United States, the FRG, and other NATO allies, would participate in repulsing an "invasion by Soviet forces." This is precisely how France justifies forming its own "Rapid Action Forces" last summer, modeled on the U.S. "Rapid Deployment Forces," and reorganizing its ground forces and nuclear missile forces.

According to LE FIGARO, the Swiss newspaper TRIBUNE DE LAUSANNE carries an interview with French Reserve General Pierre Gallois, whom the newspaper describes as the "father" of the national "nuclear deterrent forces," in which he said that under certain circumstances Switzerland's territory could be subjected to nuclear strike by...French missiles. He says that this could happen especially if the Soviet tanks broke through to the West through the Austrian and Swiss Alps. Furthermore, according to the practice currently accepted by Reagan and his Nato allies, nobody has bothered to ask Switzerland or Austria, states which -- as is well known -- adhere to neutrality, whether they need the imposition of such a "nuclear umbrella" by NATO in the absence of any threat from the East.

LE FIGARO's correspondent reports that the French general's statement produced a bombshell effect in Switzerland. It has been followed by questions in parliament on this issue, addressed directly to the president of the confederation. He, according to LE FIGARO, has decided to ask for the appropriate clarifications from the French side.

TV POLITICAL OBSERVER ON EEC DISAGREEMENTS

LD222239 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 22 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] In Brussels today, ministers of the Common Market countries convened for a meeting of the Community Council of Ministers. [video shows ministers at session] They are to try to find ways of arriving at a short-term settlement of the very acute problems facing their countries' national economies.

At the microphone is political observer Boris Kalyagin:

[Kalyagin] Hello, comrades. The European Economic Community finds itself in perhaps its most profound crisis in its entire 26-year history. The disagreement between the members of the EEC is a basic one, showing the bankruptcy of capitalist integration. There is a clash between opposing points of view reflecting the interests of national capital. The FRG and Britain are demanding a review of the community's economic policy and a heavy cut in spending on agriculture. At the same time, the southern Common Market countries, primarily France, are defending the interests of their agriculture. The discord is heightened by the implacable stance adopted by the British Conservative Government, which is demanding an immediate cut in Britain's share in the contributions to the Community treasury. If this is not done, it is threatening to block all EEC decisions -- and decisions have to be made urgently because the community's cash box is almost empty. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has said, however, that Great Britain is ready to allow the Common Market to become bankrupt unless the British demands are satisfied.

It is, of course, no accident that the contradictions between the members of the EEC have manifested themselves so acutely at this very time. They reflect the profound economic difficulties that the EEC countries are undergoing: falling production, increasing inflation, and growing unemployment. The army of unemployed people in the Common Market countries stands at almost 12.5 million, which is 11 percent of the entire able-bodied population of little Europe.

The problems are exacerbated by Washington's selfish policy. The members of the community are indignant that the Reagan administration is not simply just disregarding their interests but is damaging them directly both economically and politically by its actions. There is no shortage of examples of this. They include the high bank interest rates in the United States, which are undermining West European currencies; restrictions on steel and textile imports from the Common Market countries; attempts to put obstacles in the way of their agricultural exports; the attempt to force them to prohibit the advantageous trade with the socialist countries; and, finally, the Washington-inspired new spiral in the arms race, which will be an additional burden on the West European economy. It is no accident that the need to take retaliatory measures to counter the U.S. economic expansion has become almost the only issue on which the Common Market members have similar views.

MILITARY INDUSTRY BEING REVIVED IN W. BERLIN

PM221737 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Correspondent B. Lysenko dispatch: "Violation of Agreement"]

[Text] West Berlin -- Antiwar actions in West Berlin are gathering strength. More and more new strata of the population are joining in the struggle against the deployment of U.S. first-strike weapons on FRG, Italian, and British territory. Tens of thousands of West Berliners of different ages and professions have again taken to the streets with antiwar slogans.

One of the main tasks in the cause of ensuring lasting peace and security in Europe is to continue the campaign against the deployment of U.S. Pershing II and cruise missiles on the West European countries' territories and for revoking NATO's missile decision, it says in a resolution adopted at a recent trade union conference. The peace supporters' struggle takes various forms.

Wittenbergplatz is in the center of West Berlin. Dozens of women surrounded the Fraunhofer Institute there to protest the research that it is conducting on military problems.

The police dealt with the women with lightening speed -- they were all arrested and their banners were destroyed. The vigor of the police was no accident. The city authorities are treating this problem with extreme sensitivity, and facts confirming the existence in West Berlin of a military industry and of military research are either ignored or distorted.

But it is well known that truth will come out. The West Berlin magazine ADS-INFO published an article by Werner Kellner entitled "Think-Tank of Death." In the article, the author describes how the FRG Ministry of Defense, in conjunction with the Ministry of Research and Technology and the Ministry of Finance, is taking part in a research program by West Berlin's higher technical institutions on themes which have military significance but are presented with a "civilian dressing." The author of the article concludes that the "status of West Berlin is being systematically violated."

At the end of last year, representatives of the democratic movement "Alternative List" tabled a Senate question on arms production in West Berlin. Senator (Pirot) replied: "In case of doubt, the question of whether a particular piece of defense research or study is suitable is resolved by the federal commandant's office [soyuznaya komendatura]..."

Meanwhile the West Berlin Senate has approved the following measures:

-- The production of sets of equipment for manufacturing ammunition for Saudi Arabia;

-- The production of war gas for Israel -- under the screen of the production of chemical plant protection agents by the (Ferak) firm;

-- The assembly of radar installations for the U.S. Air Force at West Berlin's Tempelhof Airport.

The MORGENPOST newspaper has reported that aircraft spares are going to be made in the city again and that electronic control systems for nuclear missiles are being developed at the Technical University.

These and many other facts demonstrate that a military industry is gradually being revived in West Berlin, which is a most flagrant breach of the guadripartite agreement on that city.

TURKEY'S OZAL MAKES POLICY STATEMENT TO ASSEMBLY

PM221150 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Policy Statement"]

[Text] Ankara, 20 Dec -- Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has delivered his government's policy statement to the country's parliament.

In the international policy section, he confirmed Turkey's attachment to the West and to NATO and at the same time advocated further strengthening of ties with the Arab states.

Turkey, Ozal continued, is seeking to develop stable relations with its northern neighbor -- the Soviet Union -- in a spirit of constructive cooperation based on respect for mutual rights and interests.

Touching on domestic problems, the prime minister named the need to curb inflation, which had reached 40 percent by the end of this year, and the struggle against unemployment, which afflicts more than 3.5 million Turkish citizens, among the government's main tasks.

USSR, TURKEY SIGN RIVER MONITORING ACCORD

LD212114 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 21 Dec 83

[Text] In Ankara, a Soviet-Turkish intergovernmental protocol on joint monitoring of the course of the Soviet-Turkish state boundary rivers and streams has been signed.

PRAVDA REPORTS SOVIET-ITALIAN COMMISSION SESSION

PM221500 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Mixed Commission Session]

[Text] The 13th session of the Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the USSR and Italy was held in Moscow 19-20 December. The state of and prospects for the development of bilateral economic, scientific, and technical cooperation were examined.

The commission noted that trade and economic ties between the USSR and Italy have continued to develop since the previous session in accordance with the agreement on economic cooperation in 1980-85. Last year, trade turnover between the two countries increased compared with 1981 and totaled R4 billion. This year it is expected to reach the 1982 level. In terms of volume of trade turnover, Italy ranks third in the USSR's foreign trade with Western countries. Over the 4 years (1980-83) as a whole, the volume of Soviet-Italian trade will considerably exceed the volume of trade during the entire previous 5-year period (1975-79).

It was stressed that the sides are cooperating actively in the construction of industrial complexes in the USSR under the long-term program for deepening economic and industrial cooperation. In accordance with agreements and contracts concluded, Italian firms supply machines and equipment to the Soviet Union for the Urengoy-Uzhgord export gas pipeline and for individual enterprises in the chemical, metallurgical, pulp and paper, light, and food sectors of industry, and the construction materals industry.

It was noted that wide opportunities exist for extending trade, economic, industrial, scientific, and technical cooperation with a view to ensuring that reciprocal deliveries of goods taken place on a more balanced basis. Concrete recommenations for their realization were examined.

The question of completing the coordination of a new long-term program for deepening economic, industrial, and technical cooperation between the USSR and Italy for the period through 1990 was also examined. It was agreed to submit the text of the program to the governments for approval, for subsequent signing at an intergovernmental level.

The Soviet delegation to the session was headed by N.D. Komarov, first deputy minister of foreign trade, and the Italian delegation by B. Corti, deputy foreign minister.

The session took place in a businesslike, constructive atmosphere and in a spirit of mutual understanding.

PLO'S 'ARAFAT MEETS EGYPT'S MUBARAK

LD221428 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Cairo December 22 TASS -- President Husni Mubarak received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, in the presidential palace of al-Qubbah today, the MENA news agency has reported. Accompanied by Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, prime minister of the A.R.E. the Palestinian leader arrived by helicopter from Ismalia where the Greek ships, which have brought the Palestinian fighter from the Lebanese city of Tripoli to the Suez Canal zone area.

Comments on Camp David Accord

LD230017 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1935 GMT 22 Dec 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Vladimir Dunayev; Dunayev speaks over video showing Mubarak and 'Arafat meeting]

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, met Husni Mubarak, president of Egypt, today. The meeting took place when the Greek liner on board which the Palestinians are sailing to Yemen entered the Suez Canal. Yasir 'Arafat said that he wants Egypt to throw off more quickly the weight of the Camp David agreement with Israel.

SYRIAN PROGRESSIVE FRONT MAKES APPEAL

PM221151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "The People's Resolve: Syrian National Progressive Front Appeal"]

[Text] Damascus, 21 Dec -- The adventurist U.S. actions in the Near East indicate that the U.S. Administration is not at all concerned about the cause of peace and stability in the region or the Arab people' legitimate interests, an appeal by the Syrian National Progressive Front to progressive parties and organizations throughout the world says.

U.S. imperialism's aim, the document stresses, is to establish a U.S. military presence in the Near East and clear the way for capitulatory versions of a settlement in the region. Washington and Tel Aviv are trying to turn Lebanon into a protectorate, interfering flagrantly in its internal affairs, and flouting UN decisions aimed at restoring the sovereignty, national independence, and territorial integrity of that Arab country. They are carrying out aggressive acts against Syria.

The Syrian people, the appeal notes, are fully determined to continue to watch over the Arab nation's legitimate interests and aspirations and to continue the struggle for the liberation of the Israeli-occupied territories and the safeguarding of the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine. All forces of peace, freedom, and national liberation, headed by the Arabs's devoted friend the Soviet Union, are on Syria's side.

The Syrian National Progressive Front called for efforts to be stepped up to expose imperialist and Zionist intrigues in the Near East and demanded the withdrawal of U.S. and Israeli interventionist troops from Lebanon and for the Lebanese people to be granted the opportunity to decide their own destiny. In the conditions which have arisen, the document says in conclusion, special significance is attached to effective solidarity with Syria, the Lebanese National Patriotic Forces, and the Palestinian revolution.

SYRIAN BA'TH PARTY DELEGATION VISITS USSR

PM221152 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Visit"]

[Text] A delegation of Syrian Ba'th Party workers headed by A.K. Khatib, member of the Homs provincial Ba'th Party Committee, was in the Soviet Union 13 through 20 December under the plan for party ties between the CPSU and the Ba'th Party.

The Syrian guests were received in the CPSU Central Committee Transport and Communications Section and visited Poltava. The delegation familiarized itself with the activity of CPSU party organizations and the Soviet people's life.

SYRIAN BA'TH OFFICIAL PRAISES SOVIET TIES

LD222131 Moscow TASS in English 2001 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus December 22 TASS -- The Soviet Union is a loyal and reliable friend of Syria and the Arab peoples and gives the latter the necessary assistance. The USSR's principled and constructive stand contributes towards the struggle of peoples against imperialism, neocolonialism and Zionism, 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th deputy general secretary, said here. He exposed the aggressive designs of the USA and Israel against Syria. The notorious "strategic alliance," the Syrian figure pointed out, aims at establishing imperialist rule on the Arab lands. In this connection A. al-Ahmar pointed out that the struggle against that dangerous agreement is part of the struggle waged by all peoples for freedom and progress. He pointed out that under no circumstances Syria will permit that imperialist hegemony be forced on the region.

U.S. PLANES CONTINUE FLIGHTS OVER LEBANON

LD221234 Moscow TASS in English 1152 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Beirut December 22 TASS -- This morning aircraft based on the aircraft carriers of the U.S. Sixth Fleet made reconnaissance flights over the southern suburbs of the capital and upland Lebanon. The flights, according to a Beirut radio broadcast, are made for obviously provocative purposes. By having drawn the anti-aircraft fire of the national-patriotic forces and the Syrian contingent of the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon, the U.S. planes intend to retaliate by delivering a rocket-and-bomb strike at peaceful populated localities of the country.

It is no secret to anyone any longer that the provocative activity of the U.S. military in Lebanon is aimed at heating up the situation and at consolidating their military presence in the region, and not at achieving national reconciliation in the country.

UN MAKES 'SERIOUS' MIDEAST 'WARNING' DECISION

PM221438 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[Rafail Moseyev "Commentator's Column": "Warning to the Aggressor"]

[Text] The UN General Assembl has come out resolutely in favor of convening an international conference on the Near East.

The resolution, adopted by an overwhelming majority of votes, stresses that the conference must taken place under UN auspices with the participation on an equal basis of all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO.

As is known, the Soviet Union, consistently striving for the restoration of lasting peace in the Near East, has more than once noted the need for such a forum to be held. Our country, supporting the Arab peoples' just struggle against the intrigues of imperialism and its Zionist accomplices, proceeds on the basis that the convening of an international conference is an important, constructive instrument for resolving the Near East crisis, whose settlement is only possible on the basis of Israel's complete, unconditional withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the implementation by the Palestinian people, under the PLO's leadership, of their inalienable right to self-determination and the creation of their own independent state.

Against this background, the aggressive, anti-Arab nature of U.S. policy in the region stands out particularly prominently. The U.S. Administration, encouraging Tel Aviv's expansionist course, is responsible for the bloody aggression unleashed in the summer of last year by the Israeli military against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. Enjoying the fruits of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, Washington has today in effect embarked on a path of undeclared war against the Lebanese. The U.S. military, which has concentrated nearly the entire 6th Fleet off Lebanon's coast, is subjecting peaceful Lebanese cities to barbarous shelling from long-range guns and sowing death and destruction.

At the UN General Assembly session there was sharp criticism of Washington's hegemonist aspirations in the Near East. In the special resolution which was adopted, the members of the international community censured the strategic alliance concluded between the United States and Israel. The document stresses, in particular, that the agreement signed recently on the development of "strategic cooperation" between Washington and Tel Aviv encourages Israel's ruling circles to pursue an aggressive, expansionist policy and hinders the restoration of peace in the Near East. The General Assembly also approved a number of other resolutions in which the blame for actions fraught with the danger of exacerbating tension in that part of the globe is pinned on the United States.

The UN decisions constitute a serious warning to the aggressor and his accomplices, to those who nurture plans of extending armed interference in the affairs of Arab states, jeopardizing the security of peoples not only in the Near East region, but throughout the world.

MANY COUNTRIES REFUSE TO JOIN LEBANON FORCE

LD230839 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] About 15 countries have responded with a refusal to a U.S. proposal that they join the so-called multinational force in Lebanon. This was admitted in an interview in Washington by Weinberger, the U.S. secretary of defense. He declined to name the countries that had not supported the idea of expanding the multinational force, which now comprises military sub-units from the United States, France, Britain and Italy. The U.S. Marines in Lebanon have been taking part in combat actions against partiotic forces, while ships and aircraft have been bombarding and bombing Lebanese territory.

BAHRAINI 'PROFOUND CONCERN' IN MIDEAST NOTED

LD222252 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Talk by "Bahraini Struggler" Mahmud Ahmad Salim -- recorded]

[Text] Our Bahraini people feel profound concern over the fast development of events in the two areas of the Middle East and the Gulf, developments that are fraught with numerous dangers for the future of our area and the security of our peoples. (?In this critical) period [word indistinct] the Gulf area is witnessing a number of developments which indicate the difficulty and gravity of the challenges facing this area, and which present its peoples with great tasks of which they should be aware and which they should prepare to confront before it is too late.

The United States of America (?benefits) from the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war to set up an imperialist strike force which is in fact military assault force and [word indistinct].

There is another fact that confirms direct U.S. military intervention in this area: The presence of the Rapid Deployment Force on board one of the U.S. ships anchored in the Gulf. It is regretable that not everyone is aware of the extent of the danger threatening the area's peoples as a result of the U.S. military presence in these countries. There are also some rulers who enter into alliances with the U.S. to the detriment of the interests of their countries. This is what is meant by the Bahraini [word indistinct].

On 16 December Bahrain celebrates the day that the rulers of Bahrain calls national day. Is it really possible to consider that day a national day? To answer this question we have to go back a little in history. The preindependence era has witnessed the rise of struggle in Bahrain and the Gulf countries in general to get rid of British colonialism's hegemony. Britain found herself incapable of maintaining her overt military presence as a result of the fatal blows she sustained in the Gulf and other areas of the world. Moreover, the balance was tipped to the advantage of the forces of liberation and socialism. Under the pressure of all these factors Britain was forced to withdraw from this area and to declare the independence of these countries.

Thus the independence which was proclaimed in 1971 was not a gift from the colonialists but an objective outcome to the heroic and long struggle waged by our people and to the other aforementioned factors. However, Bahrain did not come out from the framework of neocolonialist relations. Relations [word indistinct] with the imperialist countries which continued exercising their control and tightening their grip over the fate of our country. The ruling reactionary circles involved themselves with the military facilities agreement according to which [word indistinct] the use of the bases [word indistinct] the U.S. forces under the name of the Forces of the Middle East which constitute the core of the American 5th Fleet.

[Passage indistinct] They are still playing a role as there are the friendship agreements between Britain and all of the Gulf countries. There is also the British [word indistinct] which still supervises the security in the Gulf area through the oppression of the developing mass movement, the horrific torture sustained by prisoners at their jails, setting up security alliances of powers between the states of the area and calling them Gulf cooperation.

The Government of Bahrain has opened the doors wide open before scores of foreign commercial, service, banking, and financial institutions and offered them every facility to make [?great] profits in collaboration with the agents and henchmen of the regime. [words indistinct] the citizens are suffering from inflation and housing problems [passage indistinct] to face them or to curb them. Also (?thousands) of foreign labor force were imported to undermine the unity of the working class, this unity being the basic condition for the victory of the latter's cause.

All of this happens at the expense of our people's freedom and dignity, and to exploit them, plunder their wealth, besiege them with living crises, strike at their popular struggles, and at the expense of scores of local graduates, officials, and working force, their dim future [words indistinct] as a result of bad planning, wasting the energies of the regime's administrative apparatus or in an open way as per orders from foreign intelligence (?and) the Interior Ministry. [Passage indistinct] the struggle of the youth at various sectors; workers, women, students, intellectuals, and wage earners by prohibiting them from forming their popular and vocational organizations importing foreign experts, destroying their psychological, mental and educational structure, planting (?foreign habits and ideas) [words indistinct] and denying them the acquaintance with progressive ideas. [Passage indistinct].

The oppression, torture, and suppression of general freedoms and the shiny promises by the ruling authority did not prevent our people, small in number but great in struggle, from achieving their just demands. Under the leadership of their national forces and depending on the experience in struggle gained during their confrontation of the old colonialism, they are capable of confronting the various forms of colonialism. We will struggle until the day when the people control their country's resources and participate in deciding its policy.

U.S. 'HATCHING CONSPIRACY' AGAINST LIBYA

LD222045 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 22 Dec 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program by Vladimir Bilyakov]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists are hatching a conspiracy against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. This was indicated in the Washington press conference held by (Joseph Churba), chief of the state security center.

First of all he slandered Libya's policy and then called for carrying out covert and open action to topple her government. (Churba) explained that an operation has to be carried out in Libya similar to the one carried out 30 years ago against the Mossadeq government in Iran.

We would like to remind people that Mossadeq was the victim of a conspiracy planned by the U.S. CIA after his attempt to impose a check on the activities of imperialist oil monopolies. Perhaps (Joseph Churba's) statements would not have been worth paying attention to were it not for the following two points: First, he is well known for his strong ties with the U.S. Administration; and second, his call is amazingly in line with the aggressive policy pursued by President Reagan regarding Libya. The Libyan Government, which is following an independent anti-imperialist policy, has long been subjected to all kinds of pressure from the United States: She has been accused of supporting international terrorism, been boycotted economically, and the Libyan borders have been violated in a provocative way by U.S. planes and warships. therefore, there is every evidence to indicate that (Joseph Churba) said aloud what members of the U.S. Government would say behind closed doors.

ANATOLIY GROMYKO ANALYZES AFRICAN SITUATION

PM221101 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 51, 18 Dec 83 (Signed to Press 13 Dec 83) p 5

[Interview with Anatoliy Gromyko, director of the Africa Institute and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, By Gennadiy Leonov under the rubric "Viewpoint": "A Continent in the Gunsights"; date and place not given]

[Text] Q: Africa is a tangle of problems bearing on both home and foreign policy. Most events in world politics immediately tell on the destinies of many countries of the continent. Of today's tendencies in international relations, which are particularly sensitive for Africa?

A: First and foremost, the imperial course of the United States of America. The USA and some other Western States make increasingly frequent use of military force in their relations with the developing countries of the continent. The presence of American military specialists is being built up in Somalia, Kenya, Morocco and Chad; the old U.S. military bases are being expanded and new ones are under construction. The base on Diego Garcia island is being re-equipped to service aircraft carriers, nuclear-powered submarines, and nuclear-capable B-52 strategic bombers. Moreover, the just demand that the island be returned to its legitimate owner -- Mauritius -- is totally ignored.

The so-called Central Command of the USA has been set up to direct the operation of the "rapid deployment force" in areas of the Persian Gulf, East Africa and South-West Asia. Its sphere of action extends to 19 sovereign states, including six in Africa -- Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya and Djibouti. The USA has been trying to entangle many African countries in military blocs.

Q: The leaders of the West and the press of capitalist countries often claim that the escalation of the military presence of the USA and its allies in Africa is merely a response to the ongoing state of affairs on the continent.

A: Of course, such an explanation, designed for simpletons, suits the West quite well. After all, it essentially denies that imperialism is carrying out an organized counter-offensive in Africa, which seems to have been prepared A LONG TIME AGO [published in boldface], practically right after the defeat of the USA in the Vietnam war. Since then South Africa organized an intervention against democratic Angola, and it still continues. An attempt was made to capitalize on the internal events in the Zairian province of Shaba to form interventionist "Inter-African forces". With Washington's connivance Somalia committed aggression against Ethiopia. A civil war has been and is being regularly fanned in Chad. And these are only some of the examples. The purpose of this entire strategy of interference in the internal affairs of African countries is to recolonize Africa, strangle real independence, and preserve the continent exclusively as a cheap reservoir of raw materials and labor force for the foreign monopolies.

Q: Today, a relative lull has set in in Chad, one of the hottest spots in Africa. The country has been actually divided by a frontier called the "Mitterrand line".

A: The very appearance of this term is indicative of the degree of France's involvement in the Chad conflict. The numerical strength of the French troops positioned along the "Mitterrand line" has already exceeded 3,500.

They have at their disposal combat aircraft, helicopters, heavy artillery, and armoured vehicles. This is perhaps one of the highest concentrations of the French armed forces in an African country since Algeria.

So far, they are not shooting -- so far. But what next? As announced by France's Prime Minister Pierre Amuroy, the French invasion forces are ready to enter into "direct contact with the enemy". According to the Prime Minister, in addition to the troops present in Chad, on the territory of France itself there are another 2,000 officers and men ready to fly to N'djamena.

Mercenaries continue to be recruited in France and sent to Chad. As reported by the weekly VALEUR ACTUELLES, each "soldier of fortune" is paid FR18,000 a month, plus FR30,000 as "travelling expenses". The French press reported that these sums accrue from the funds remitted by Washington to the Habre regime. This is how the strength of foreigners is bought to trample upon sovereign development. Foreigners interfere in Chad's affairs, undoubtedly deepening and aggravating the crisis in that small country.

Relatively recently, the 10th conference of the heads of state and government of French-speaking Africa and France was held in the French town of Vittel, giving priority to the situation in Chad. President Francois Mitterrand of France urged the delegates to the conference "to give advice on how to prepare a peaceful way out" of the situation. The conference, unfortunately, did not find such a way out. It does exist though -- by giving the people of Chad the possibility themselves to settle their internal affairs.

Q: What is it about Chad that has interested the leading Western powers, primarily the United States, which, although it is taking no direct part in the conflict, is exerting the maximum of effort to fan up tensions there?

A: Its strategic position. It is on the junction of the Saharan, Sahel and Equatorial zones of Africa and stands at the gates to the Red Sea.

In one of his speeches touching on the situation in Chad, Reagan said that the United States wants to help Chad "get on its feet". No, it's not on its feet that it wants Chad to get, but down on its knees, and with it, neighbouring Libya.

It has already become a tradition that when a country begins to pursue an independent democratic policy, the Reaganites accuse it of international terrorism, then they mount an economic blockade and, lastly, military provocations. This has been and is the case with Afghanistan and Nicaragua. This is also what's happening to Libya, against which the USA is not ceasing its military provocations. For the Reagan government the events in Chad are merely a pretext for extending the anti-Libyan campaign. The USA has concentrated about 30 warships in the Mediterranean, including aircraft carriers with 200 planes on board. The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Eisenhower has also visited the area. There are other examples of bringing power pressure to bear on the Africans. On orders from President Reagan, two AWACS aircraft were sent to the Chad borders. They were accompanied by a squadron of fighters and refuelling planes. This armada was used both against the forces of Chad's transitional government of national unity and against Libya.

Q: There is a traditionally inflammable region -- the south of the continent, isn't there!

A: Yes, there are good traditions and there are bad. Racist South Africa has always been a disgrace to the African land. All the more distressing therefore, is the growing scope of economic and military cooperation between the Western powers and South Africa.

In the mid-1970's, there were more than 1,600 foreign firms active in South Africa -- 630 of them British and 494 American. As estimated by specialists at our institute, U.S. investments in that country have reached $15,000 million. It can be said that the Western powers' military-industrial complexes, primarily those of the USA, have established a military-industrial complex in South Africa. Now South Africa, which stages constant military provocations against Mozambique, Angola, Zambia and Lesotho and terrorizes the black majority at home, itself produces modern weapons, and is effectively in possession of nuclear weapons.

And contrary to the recognized principles of international relations, contrary to the UN resolutions urging all states to end contacts with the South African racists, the USA has openly proclaimed that country a "friendly state".

One unwittingly recalls the saying: "Tell me who your friends are and I'll tell you who you are."

Q: Of all the continents of the earth, perhaps Antarctica alone may boast of its non-involvement in the arms race. What is Africa's place in this senseless and dangerous buildup of the means of human destruction!

A: The Western press alleges that interference in the internal affairs of African states is undertaken for the sake of their "defence". Such allegations are utterly false. These interventions are carried out primarily in the narrow interests of the Western powers, first and foremost of which is the USA. When the latter builds up the "friendly countries'" capability to ensure their "national security", it thereby furthers its own interests, because many aid programmes to African countries are geared to granting Washington access to the strategically important areas. This was recently stated by none other than U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger.

Today, the USA is drawing the whole African Continent into the arms race. In the past 20 years, military spending has increased ten-fold, reached $40,000 million.

Africa buys 21 percent of all arms purchased by developing countries. In the early 1980's, Morocco, Sudan, Somalia and Egypt considerably increased arms purchases. Nor has tropical Africa kept aside.

According to data of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), between 1967 and 1976 the military spending of African countries increased from 2.3 to 3.4 per cent of their gross national product (the second largest increase in the world after the Middle East countries).

And this at a time when millions of people in Africa are undernourished or even dying from hunger. It is appropriate to recall here one of the USSR's initiatives in the UN calling for the economically developed countries to cut their military budgets by 10 percent and use part of the funds thus released to aid the developing countries. The NATO countries have refused to accept this reasonable step.

The Soviet Union is often accused of allegedly having "inundated Africa with its weapons". The Western powers' arms deliveries are said to be intended to "counterbalance the existing situation". But this is sheer nonsense. Indeed, the Soviet Union does supply arms to some African countries. But only to those which need them for defending their sovereignty against aggression. On the other hand, the actions of the military business concerns of the USA and other NATO countries are primarily motivated by profit-seeking, as well as neocolonialist interests.

The ruinous path of the arms race, onto which Africa is being pushed by many Western states, on the contrary, undermines it and makes the threat of thermonuclear war ever more real.

Q: What do the Africans themselves think of this score?

A: Some people on the African Continent still subscribe to the naive idea that the limitation of the arms race is a job solely for the great powers or in general for the USSR and the USA alone. This view holds no water. Take just one example. The cruise missiles which the Americans want to deploy on Sicily may also threaten many countries in Africa. In the press, reports have already leaked that these missiles may be targeted also on some Arab and African countries.

More and more politicians, public figures and ordinary working people of Africa are demanding an end to the arms race on the continent and across the world.

It goes without saying that the reduction of military spending in African presupposes the provision of conditions under which the security of the countries will be guaranteed. The USSR's African policy proceeds precisely from this principle. It is aimed at strengthening security on the continent and enjoys understanding among African states. The Soviet Union firmly supports the activity of the Organization of African Unity and welcomes the proclamation of the continent as a nuclear-free zone, and of the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean as peace zones.

Of late, important national, regional and international antiwar forums have been held on the African Continent. They include, for instance, the international Conference of Lawyers, held in December 1982 in Algiers under the motto "The Mediterranean -- a Peace Zone". Its participants -- representatives of 47 countries -- passed a resolution suggesting that the UN declare the Mediterranean a peace zone. At the end of the same year, a national week for disarmament was held in Senegal. It adopted the Dakar Declaration, which stressed that the struggle to prevent a nuclear catastrophe "is a moral duty of all peoples and nations." Finally, representatives of many African countries took part in the work of the World Assembly for Peace and Life, Against Nuclear Disaster, held in Prague in the summer of 1983.

Q: In the West it is often claimed that the USSR speaks much about economic assistance to African countries, but in fact renders it in "a very insignificant volume."

A: One can say and declare as much as one pleases. But not everything should be trusted, of course.. Therefore, let's turn to the facts.

By the early 1980's, the Soviet Union had agreements on economic and technical cooperation with 35 African countries. It had assumed obligations to build over 500 industrial, agricultural and other projects in Africa, nearly two-thirds of which have already been put into operation. Among the projects built or being built with Soviet assistance in African countries, there are many large ones, some of crucial importance for the economies of the corresponding countries. These are, for instance, the second section of the iron-and-steel works in Algeria, a bauxite-extracting enterprise in Guinea, an iron-and-steel works in Nigeria, an atomic power station in Libya, and hydroelectric power stations in Ethiopia and Angola.

The Soviet Union has given the newly-emergent states every possible assistance in training national technical personnel at all levels. About 150,000 highly skilled workers have been trained at the training centres and on construction sites in African countries. In addition to this, about 170 educational establishments -- higher and technical schools, colleges and vocational centers -- have been built or are being built with Soviet assistance.

The USSR'S economic cooperation with Africa is of a comprehensive and long-term character. It is aimed at the gradual development (with due account for the material capabilities and the degree of economic development) of economic and territorial production complexes called upon to solve Africa's most urgent problems of socio-economic development.

The Soviet Union's technical and economic assistance is closely linked to the developing countries' national plans and programmes. It excludes any drain on the latter's financial resources, a common practice in relations between industrialized capitalist and developing countries. This considerably weakens the economy of the young states.

The main thing, however, is that the Soviet Union has never made and will not make any deals with anyone at the expense of the developing countries. Its assistance is sincere and requires no exorbitant dividends either now or in the future.

CAMEROONIAN ENVOY ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

PM221126 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report under the "Official Report" heading]

[Text] Paul Dontsop, Cameroonian ambassador to the USSR, arrived in Moscow on 19 December.

KIDNAPPED SOVIET GEOLOGISTS FREED IN MOZAMBIQUE

NC230750 Paris AFP in English 0729 GMT 23 Dec 83

[From the "News Briefs"]

[Text] Maputo [dateline as received] -- Eight Soviet geologists kidnapped in northern Mozambique last August have been freed, two have died in captivity and 14 are still being held by South African-backed Mozambique rebels, a Soviet Embassy official said here.

SAO TOME OFFICIAL RECEIVES KAPTO-LED CPSU GROUP

PM211410 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Dec 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "High Assessment"]

[Text] Sao Tome, 16 Dec -- Alda Graca do Espirito Santo, chairman of the National Popular Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and member of the Politburo of the Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe Coordination Council, received the CPSU Delegation headed by A.S. Kapto, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, which is visiting here at the invitation of the Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principle Central Committee.

In her speech A.G. do Espirito highly assessed the strengthening ties of friendship and cooperation between the two parties and the peoples of both countries.

USSR Foreign Policy Praised

PM221048 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS dispatch: "High Appraisal"]

[Text] Sao Tome, 20 Dec -- Manuel Pinto da Costa, chairman of the Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe (MLSTP) and president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, has given a high appraisal of the consistent foreign policy course of the Soviet Union. Receiving the CPSU delegation led by A.S. Kapto, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, which is here at the invitation of the MLSTP Central Committee, he expressed satisfaction at the development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and between the CPSU and the MLSTP.

The CPSU delegation's visit concluded with the signing of a plan for party ties between the CPSU and the MLSTP.

U.S. AID CUT 'PUNISHMENT' FOR ZIMBABWE

LD221227 Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Washington December 22 TASS -- The United States resorts to crude blackmail against independent African states in an effort to make them follow a policy suitable to the West. As is admitted in a statement of the U.S. State Department, circulated here, the decision by the Reagan administration to cut by more than fifty per cent its economic aid to Zimbabwe was taken because of the latter's refusal to follow in the wake of U.S. policy on key international problems.

It follows from this statement that the "sanctions" against Zimbabwe are meant as "punishment" for the government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe for its condemnation of the U.S. invasion of Grenada and its refusal to support the propaganda campaign launched by Washington over the provocation staged by American special services in the Soviet Far East. The funds thus "saved", the statement says, will be used to increase assistance to some other countries.

According to American press reports, the State Department means first of all regimes "friendly to the USA", e. g. those in Chile and El Salvador.

London December 22 TASS -- Washington intends to interfere in the international affairs of Zimbabwe to make it subordinate its policy to the aims of American strategy in the south of Africa. This was in fact confirmed by Chester Crocker, assistant secretary of state for African affairs. As was reported by the Johannesburg newspaper STAR, Ch. Crocker said to pressmen, when asked to comment on the U.S. decision to cut assistance to Zimbabwe, that the U.S. was not going to lose its interests in that country.

The interests mentioned by Chester Crocker, the newspaper says, consist chiefly in ensuring a capitalist system of free enterprise there and imposing on Zimbabwe a policy of rapprochement with the neighbouring Republic of South Africa. In planning its policy in the south of Africa the Reagan administration pinned great hopes on assistance from Zimbabwe which became independent shortly before that. But, the newspaper stresses, the aims pursued by Washington in the region proved absolutely unacceptable to the government of the youngest African republic which has chosen the road of social and economic reforms in a socialist spirit and firm non-alignment.

U.S. STEPPING UP AID TO 'DICTATORIAL' C. AMERICA

PM222014 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Nicaragua: The Clouds are Gathering"]

[Text] Washington 21 Dec -- The Reagan administration is continuing to build up the atmosphere of hostility and hatred around Nicaragua. The aggressive actions from Honduran territory by counterrevolutionary groups supported and directed by the CIA have been stepped up recently. For example, 2,000 Somozistas invaded the Nicaraguan department of Jinotega in an attempt to establish themselves in one of its population centers in order to expand their aggressive actions against the republic's people. At the same time Washington is striving to unite the counterrevolutionary groups which are waging a struggle against the Sandinist revolution.

The so-called National Commission on Central America headed by former Secretary of State H. Kissinger toured the "Contadora Group" countries on instructions from the White House. The commission tried to convince these countries, which advocate the normalization of the situation in Central America, that the destabilizing factor in the region is not the United States but Nicaragua. In other words, this tour was nothing but a propaganda trick aimed at distorting the facts and presenting Nicaragua as the party guilty of exacerbating the situation in the region. It is true that these attempts failed.

At a press conference in Venezuela's capital, Caracas, Kissinger three times avoided giving a direct answer to the question whether the United States would give up its plans for armed intervention in Nicaragua. This was seen as evidence that Washington has no intention of giving up its aggressive schemes concerning the Sandinist revolution.

A similar goal was pursued by the tour by R. Stone, Reagan's special envoy to Central America, who visited a number of countries. The White House emissary tried to twist their arms and exert economic and political pressure.

While exerting economic and political pressure on the countries in the region, the Reagan administration is sharply stepping up its military assistance to obedient dictatorial regimes in Central America. Washington has transformed Honduras into a bridgehead for aggressive actions by Somozista gangs against Nicaragua and into the region's gendarme. Military bases and air strips are being built on its territory close to Nicaragua. The country has been flooded by U.S. forces conducting joint military maneuvers, which are preparations for direct U.S. aggression against Nicaragua and a threat against the national liberation movements in other countries. Military shipments to the bloody El Salvador regime are increasing, and that country's airports are used to deliver arms and ammunition to the Nicaraguan borders. Guatemala's puppet regime is also in the Pentagon's service. The so-called Central American Defense Council, comprising El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, has been revived on Washington's orders.

U.S. 'COOKED UP' GRENADA AID 'PETITION' HIT

LD221922 Moscow TASS in English 1743 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 22 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Leonid Ponomarev [word indistinct] the Reagan administration, which ordered the armed invasion of Grenada and the overthrow of the legitimate power there, is now preparing to turn that island into a United States' colony. The first evidence bearing out Washington's aggressive designs is contained in dispatches by Western news agencies which came from Saint George's today.

The reports say that a "petition" [word indistinct] to Washington by 6,000 Grenadians requesting that some "form of association with the United States" be created for Grenada. The persons who signed the "petition", are reported to request the White House to respond to that appeal as it is claimed that 110 thousand Grenadians are "confused" and could not identify "true democracy"!

The document is highly telltale in the sense that it has been so crudely cooked up and smacks of such falsehood that one can clearly see through it they in Washington who inspired that "petition". There have been in human history too many of similar falsehoods and frauds, on whose basis brutal foreign rule was forced on whole peoples.

They in the White House believe, however, that if they use the cautious term "association" with the United States, the world public will readily swallow this sweetened pill from Reagan's arsenal of lies.

The real essence of "association with the USA" is particularly clearly seen from the destiny of Puerto Rico. That island having the status of a "state freely associated with the USA" has been turned into a real colony of the present day United States' empire. American monopolies exercise undivided sway inthe island exploiting its people and plundering its resources. Sixteen American bases occupy 14 percent of the island's fertile lands. As a result of unbearable poverty already more than a third of Puerto Ricans have left their homeland. Many of them drag on miserable existence in racial ghettoes -- slums of New York and other U.S. cities. But such an "association" between Puerto Rico and the United States does not suit the book of the U.S. President. Reagan is palnning total annexation of the island.

An example of the tragic consequences of colonial dependence on the United States under cover of "association" is also the trust territory of Micronesia, which the United States has finally partitioned, thus violating the letter and spirit of the U.N. mandate. The artificially created affiliations with the status of an "association" or "freely joined" territories are placed in a position of total dependence on the United States. These associations which are covered with a network of military bases, including for nuclear weapons, are nothing else but bases for U.S. aggression and economic expansionism in the region. [sentence as received] This is the fate which the Washington leaders are preparing for Grenada, too.

CPSU POLITBURO TO VIEW ECONOMY, EAST-WEST TIES

LD221807 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1620 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow, December 22 (TANJUG) -- The Soviet economy this year recorded a faster rate of development although planned targets in the main industrial branches and in transport were not achieved.

This is stated in a report prepared by the Soviet Communist Party Politbureau for the annual debate on the country's economy, plan and budget next Monday.

The Politbureau underlined that the agriculture had also marked an increase in comparison with the preceding four years of poor harvest.

The Politbureau said that the chief goal in 1984 would be to maintain the established level of production, implying a production growth higher than costs.

The coming Central Committees session is expected to discuss relations with the United States and between the two blocs, as well as defense requirements arising because of the aggravation of East-West political and military confrontation. In its report, the Politbureau underlined that the 1984 draft budget envisages [word indistinct] is necessary for maintaining the country's defense capability at the appropriate level."

The Soviet defense budget was 17.05 billion rubles (23.5 billion dollars) in the past several years, at least ten times below the U.S. military budget. By not increasing its defense spendings, the Soviet Union has decreased its defense allocations in overall government expenditures from 5.3 percent in 1980 to 4.8 percent this year.

ELECTIONS PROOF OF 'TRIUMPH' OF SYSTEM

PM221113 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Preparing for the Elections"]

[Text] Elections for the 11th convocation of the USSR Supreme Soviet will be held 4 March 1984. This is a major event in our country's sociopolitical life. It is highly significant for the further development of socialist democracy and the subsequent activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet and all the soviets of people's deputies in the country.

Each election campaign becomes a thorough review of the activity of the soviets and all state organs. Important milestones in communist buildinghave been erected in the period of almost 5 years since the last elections. The 26th CPSU Congress took place in 1981, and its ideas and decisions have become an inseparable part of our life. Every one of us remembers the joyful days of celebration of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's foundation. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) and June (1983) Plenums provided a new impetus to work. The all-people's struggle for unconditional fulfillment of what has been planned has spread everywhere.

A considerable amont has been accomplished in the time that has passed. For example, this year social production growth rates increased by comparison with last year. Its economic efficiency is increasing, and labor productivity is growing.

More consumer goods are being produced. The Food Program is being consistently implemented. The people's real incomes have increased. Since the start of the 5-year plan, millions of Soviet people have celebrated moving to new homes. We also sense our achievements in the spiritual development of the individual and the development of science and culture.

The present election campaign is being launched at a crucial state of the struggle to implement the decisions of the 26th party congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. It must be conducted beneath the sign of further developing the socialist people's power and strengthening the bloc of communists and nonparty members. This campaign will undoubtedly help to involve the citizens even more widely in the management of the affairs of state and society. It will help develop the labor and political activity of Soviet people, boost the initiative of the masses, strengthen discipline and order, enhance the prestige of Soviets at all levels, and improve the work of state and economic organs.

The CPSU Central Committee, having examined the tasks of party organizations in connection with the preparation and conduct of the forthcoming elections, yesterday published a resolution which notes that the party organizations are called upon to closely link all their preelection work with the specific tasks of the economic, sociopolitical, and spiritual development of Soviet society. Above all else, it is important to maintain the pace that has been achieved and to actively develop positive trends. The foremost task is to mobilize the working people to complete this year's plans successfully and ensure steady work from the very first days of January. By using all the reserves, it is necessary to chase up all the laggard links and make good the debts permitted to accumulate over the first 3 years of the 5-year plan by some collectives. This demands high standards of organization, discipline, and activity by every worker, wherever he may be working. Communists and deputies to soviets at all levels are called upon to set an example in this direction.

The ideological-political edge of the incipient campaign must be aimed at the profound explanation of the CPSU's fruitful activity to build up the country's economic and defense might. Our reality offers the richest material to demonstrate the Soviet way of life, the flourishing of the people's spiritual powers, and the growing prosperity. It is the duty of agitators and lecturers to vividly describe these facts to the people and comprehensively demonstrate the historic achievements of developed socialism and the principles of socialist democracy, enshrined in the USSR Constitution.

The preparation for the elections is taking place at a time when a serious exacerbation of the international situation has occurred through the fault of U.S. imperialism. Under these conditions, the CPSU and the Soviet state are waging a persistent struggle to preserve peace and prevent a nuclear catastrophe. It is important to further ensure Soviet people's monolithic cohesion round the CPSU and their determination to defend peace during the election campaign. The reactionary and antipeople nature of imperialism must be actively exposed, and a class approach to events in international life must be nurtured, together with readiness to stand up and defend the gains of socialism.

One of the main tasks in the election campaign is to nominate the most authoritative and truly people's representatives for the supreme organ of power. Not only the indicators of labor activity, but the comprehensive evaluation of candidates' abilities must provide the basis for this process. Will they manage to execute properly their duty as deputies? Do they possess the professional and political qualities necessary for this? Do they enjoy the working people's respect? Consideration must also be given to the political outlook of candidate deputies, their cultural standard, their ability to work with people, as well as to such qualities as adherence to principles, implacability toward shortcomings, and unity of word and deed; labor collectives' opinions must be taken more broadly into account.

The CPSU Central Committee draws attention to the need to maintain, just as in the past, the leading position of workers and kolkhoz members among candidate deputies, as well as to the proper representation of working people from other social groups and professions, women, young people, veterans, mid-level technical intelligentsia, and workers in the services sphere. It is necessary to elect as deputies in parallel with people from the main nationalities of union and autonomous republics and oblasts, representatives of other nationalities living there.

The election preparations are a serious test of the maturity of each party organization. It is necessary to ensure the active and keen participation by voters in the pre-election events and to make broader use of the diverse forms and methods of agitation and propaganda. The CPSU Central Committee has pointed out the need to create all the conditions for ensuring that the election campaign meetings evaluate critically the work by state organs and the fulfillment of the people's mandate, and bring difficulties and shortcomings to light. There can be no tolerance of instances of over-elaborate organization [zaorganizavannost] or formalism. It is necessary to treat attentively proposals and remarks made by citizens in connection with the elections and to implement everything that is sensible and constructive.

The USSR Supreme Soviet elections are a new proof of the triumph of socialist democracy. Rallied round the CPSU, the Soviet people will mark them with labor successes.

SOCIAL SCIENTISTS DISCUSS JUNE PLENUM TASKS

PM221852 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Social Scientists' Forum"]

[Text] Social scientists are expanding their study of topical national economic and social problems, taking an active part in the theoretical elaboration of the natural laws governing the development of socialism and international processes, and making their own contribution to the party's education and propaganda activity. The broad spectrum of these problems was discussed at a 20 December general meeting in Moscow of the USSR Academy of Sciences (Social Sciences Section) devoted to the fulfillment of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum and the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures To Accelerate Scientific and Technical Progress in the National Economy."

Our country possesses tremendous natural resources which make it possible objectively to secure the acceleration of socioeconomic development, Academician A.P. Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, said in his introductory speech. The success of this important matter also depends on the contribution which our scientists must make to practice.

Academician P.N. Fedoseyev, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, stressed in his report the growing role of social sciences in improving social production efficiency, increasing the Soviet people's material prosperity and culture, and improving ideological, and political education work.

The USSR Academy of Sciences general meeting noted that the restructuring of scientific work in light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum has only just begun.

A number of key issues of introducing scientific developments and recommendations into practice have not been resolved, and certain important problems of developed socialism and questions of improving its economic machinery and social structure, further developing democracy, and improving ideological and educational work among the masses need deeper theoretical generalization.

NEW BOOK ON CPSU CADRE POLICY REVIEWED

PM211206 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Dec 83 First Edition p 2

[A. Chernyak "Book Review": "The Decisive Link"]

[Text] V.I. Lenin metaphorically described the selection, placing, and education of cadres and the monitoring and verification of execution as the key to all work. The problems of the CPSU's cadre policy in light of the ideas and instructions of party congresses and Central Committee plenums are comprehensively examined by Ye. Z. Razumov's book published recently by the Political Literature Publishing House (Footnote) (Ye. Z. Razumov, "Problems of the CPSU'S Cadre Policy" ["Problemy Kadrovoy Politiki KPSS"], Moscow, Political Literature Publishing House, 1983, 192 pages).

The main criteria by which a person and his degree of suitability for particular work can be judged are his political and practical qualities. Political qualities are determined by the worker's ideological commitment, devotion to the cause of communism, and theoretical training, the author notes. The party attaches paramount significance to ensuring that theoretical knowledge does not take root in people's heads in the form of formulas dissociated from life, but becomes the norm for their behavior and serves as a guidance into action. On the practical side, it is customary to assess people first and foremost in terms of their professional training, experience accumulated, and inclination to supplement their knowledge, and -- most important -- in terms of their practical actions and their attainment of concrete results in work.

Particularly high demands are made on party workers. A person who has devoted himself to professional work in the party is called upon in all his deeds and actions to be the personification of the best ideological and moral qualities which characterize the communist.

Naturally, qualities are not innate, nor are they given to a person simultaneously with his appointment or election to a particular post. They are cultivated and acquired as a result of persistent study and in the course of daily practice. The book widely publicizes the experience of local party committees and primary party organizations in this respect. It is stressed that the selection and placing of workers is more effective when party committees have a good reserve at their disposal. This multifaceted task involves studying and selecting people, doing various kinds of work with them, and training and retraining cadres.

The further democratization of the appointment of future leaders helps to overcome errors in selecting people. In particular, increasing significance is attached to the periodical certification of cadres, apprenticeships to experienced workers, conversations with cadres, and also the practice whereby the appointment is preceded by discussion of the candidacy at the party meeting and in the collective.

The need to master the Leninist work style is regarded as paramount. A high sense of responsibility in everyone for the task entrusted to him and the scientific organization of labor are assuming a decisive role.

In accordance with the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) and June (1983) Plenums, measures are being taken to ensure that a high sense of responsibility, a businesslike approach, and efficient execution are inherent in party, state, and economic organs and the entire administrative apparatus. The book notes that much has been done, for instance, to impose order on various sessions and conferences and to reduce excessive paperwork.

The author stresses that what we mean by a businesslike approach on the part of a worker is first and foremost his capacity to organize work efficiently and his ability to follow the task, once begun, to its conclusion. As one of the main components of the Leninist style, a really businesslike approach has nothing in common with narrow pragmatism or a petty practical approach at the expense of theory.

A businesslike approach is inseparable from competence and detailed knowledge of your job. It is hard to imagine a practical person lacking such qualities as will and persistence. It is also very important to have a sober, self-critical view of the results achieved. It can happen that when the work has only just gotten off the ground, people try to present it as something settled and drop it halfway through. Nothing has such a bad effect on the work style of the management apparatus as the tendency to do other people's work and the desire by a leader to "confine" all the issues to himself. It is important not to try to do everything yourself, but to skillfully distribute the work and find good helpers.

A tried and tested means of educating cadres is the monitoring and verification of execution. The CPSU Central Committee pursues a clear line of ensuring that every leader is systematically concerned with monitoring. The verification of execution is first and foremost a matter of organization and day-to-day work with people, educating them in the spirit of high responsibility, organization, and discipline. The party is invariably guided in organizing monitoring by such important Leninist principles as orientation toward the masses, effectiveness, and publicity.

The author describes at length the work done to improve the monitoring and verification of execution and to strengthen discipline. This is bearing fruit. But by no means everything has been done. In a number of cases the verification of execution is episodic and amounts merely to recording omissions and shortcomings. Their causes are not revealed in depth, nor is a principled assessment made of instances of indiscipline and poor organization. Not infrequently, in the course of verification, attention is focused not on actual results, but on noting the measures implemented.

The selection, placing, and education of cadres was and is a most important tasks for all party committees and organizations -- this idea runs through the entire book. It will undoubtedly be of great assistance to party workers and the entire aktiv in their daily work.

DETAILS OF MORDOVIAN OBLAST PARTY CONFERENCE

PM221724 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 20 Dec 83 p 2

[Special correspondents M. Glinka and Yu. Shtatnov report under the rubric "Party Life: Reports and Elections": "Effect of Feedback"]

[Excerpt] Mordovian ASSR -- We constantly sensed a businesslike, working mood in the spacious hall of the republic House of Political Education where the Mordovian Oblast party conference was being held: It was sensed both in the report of Obkom Ffrst Secretary A.I. Berezin and in the delegates' speeches. They analyzed the oblast party organization's work thoughtfully and in depth.

Organizational and ideological-educational work has recently been advanced increasingly to the fore in the activities of party committees. The oblast party organization has implemented a broad package of measures to improve it and has begun devoting more attention to its economic and social backup. However, not all party committees have yet managed to ensure the necessary improvement in educational work. But it is hard to plan on fulfilling the Food Program without making an in-depth analysis of the state of ideological and educational work and without relying on a competent assessment of the progress of and prospects for sociocultural building in the countryside. The party obkom and party committees, it was emphasized at the conference, must better organize "feedback" with the masses, which would constantly and reliably signal the quality and effectiveness of ideological work. This will help in gaining more accurate knowledge of people's sentiments, interests, and needs and taking them more exactly into account in practice.

This example was cited at the conference. Until recently it was not so much methods of persuasion as administrative methods that were used in work with people in Insarskiiy and Staroshaygovskiy party raykoms. They did a lot of work there, but the return on this activity was low. All management [rasporyaditelnyy] measures, even insignificant ones, were frequently confined to the party raykom first secretaries. An atmosphere of nervousness and uncertainty was being created, and intiative was being fettered. And both rayons began to yield their positions. The party obkom bureau was forced to take organizational measures.

UKRAINIAN CP COMMITTEE PERSONNEL CHANGES

LD230029 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1648 GMT 22 Dec 83

[From the Novosti newscast]

[Text] A plenum of the oblast party committee was held today in Ivano-Frankovsk to examine an organizational issue. The plenum freed Comrade Skiba from his duties as first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom in connection with his confirmation as first deputy head of the Department of Agriculture and Food Industry of the CPSU Central Committee.

Comrade Lyakhov was eleected first secretary of the Ivano-Frankovsk party obkom. He has been working as second secretary of this obkom.

BRIEFS

KAZAKHSTAN OBKOM CHANGES -- A plenum of the East Kazakhstan Obkom was held in Ust-Kamenogorsk today. It examined an organizational matter. The plenum relieved Comrade Protozanov of his duties as first secretary of the Kazakhstan Oblast due to his retirement. Comrade Milkin was elected first secretary of the East Kazakhstan Obkom. He has been working as chairman of the People's Control Committee of the Kazakh SSR. Comrade Miroshkin, second secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, took part in the plenum's work. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo expressed gratitude to Aleksandr Konstantinovich Protozanov for his conscientious work for the good of the party and people [Text] [Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 19 Dec 83 LD]